



Oadby and Wigston Borough Council

TO COUNCILLOR:

G A Boulter (Chair)	Mrs S A Dickinson
L Darr (Vice-Chairman)	Mrs S Z Haq
L A Bentley	Mrs R C Kanabar
J W Boyce	K J Loydall
F S Broadley	Mrs S B Morris
Miss M V Chamberlain	R H Thakor

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hereby summon you to attend a meeting of the **SERVICE DELIVERY COMMITTEE** to be held in the Council Offices, Station Road, Wigston, Leicestershire, LE18 2DR, on **TUESDAY, 6 MARCH 2012 COMMENCING at 7.00 pm** for the transaction of the business set out in the Agenda below.

Yours faithfully

Council Offices
Wigston
27 February 2012

Chief Executive

AGENDA

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**Service Delivery
Committee**

6 March 2012

Matter for Decision

Title: **Future of Leicestershire's Records Centres**

Author: **Rob Harbour – Head of Regulation and Regeneration**

1 Introduction

Further to a report from the Natural and Historic Environment Partnership to the Leicestershire Together Environment Board regarding the future of Leicestershire's records centres, a number of options have been proposed in relation to the future management and funding of these centres. Oadby and Wigston Borough Council must consider these options in order to provide feedback to the Environment Board on which they consider to be the most appropriate way forward for the records centres in the future.

2 Recommendations

That Members consider the options for the future funding and management of the records centres, and determine the preferred options for this Authority, so that the information can be fed back to the Environment Board.

3 Information

The Leicestershire Together Environment Board (the Board) last met on the 8 February 2012. At this meeting, the Board received a report from the Natural and Historic Environment Partnership (the Partnership) titled 'The Future of Leicestershire's Records Centres', which is appended to this report. The report sets out what the records centres are, why they exist and how they are currently managed.

It should be noted that the information within Section 7 of the report is not wholly accurate, as this suggests that a service level agreement (SLA) currently exists between the County Council and Oadby and Wigston Borough Council for the provision of specialist ecological, geological and historical advice, which is not the case. Although negotiation has taken place between the two authorities on a number of occasions over the past few years regarding an SLA, agreement has not been reached on an annualised financial contribution. Consequently, by mutual agreement, the Borough Council currently pays for specialist advice from the record centres on a cost-per-hour basis as and when advice is required.

The main thrust of the Partnership's report relates to the costs associated with the management and upkeep of the records centres. It appears from the report that these costs are over and above the cost of specialist advice and are therefore not covered through the SLA's, or other financial arrangements with district councils. As such, these currently fall to the County Council, which it cannot continue to meet.

Sections 10 and 11 of the appended report therefore set out a number of options for both the future funding of the records centres and their future management. Members are asked to consider the various options and determine which of them Committee considers most suitable, so that this information can be fed back to the Environment Board by the Borough Council's representative.

4 Financial Implications (PL)

The appended report gives no financial costs or any proposed funding apportionment for consideration at this time. However, it should be noted that there is no provision for funding included within this Authority's approved General Fund estimates for 2012/13.

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Implications	
Health	No significant impact
Environment	Specialist advice received by the Records Centres assists the Local Planning Authority in making informed planning decisions and recommendations that help to safeguard the environment where appropriate.
Community Safety	No significant impact
Human Rights	No significant impact
Equal Opportunities	No significant impact
Risk Assessment	No significant impact
Value for Money	Certain options within the appended report will represent better value for money for the Borough Council than others.
Equalities	No significant impact
Legal	Local Planning Authorities have a legal duty to understand the ecological, geological and historic characteristics of their area.

APPENDIX 1

C

LEICESTERSHIRE'S ENVIRONMENT BOARD

8 FEBRUARY 2012

THE FUTURE OF LEICESTERSHIRE'S RECORDS CENTRES

REPORT OF THE NATURAL AND HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP

Purpose of Report

1. To note the work of the Natural and Historic Environment Partnership and to comment on the proposed business models being considered for the county's natural and historic records centres.

Background

2. The Natural and Historic Environment Partnership is a relatively new partnership having met for only the second time in December 2011. Its aim is to deliver against the following strategic outcomes:
 - Leicestershire protects and enhances its natural and historic landscapes and environment, including those green spaces enjoyed and valued by local communities.
 - People in Leicestershire have better access to and enjoy, value and engage with the natural, historic and living environments.
3. The partnership comprises representatives from each of the county's 8 local authorities and representatives from a selection of the voluntary and statutory organisations who work in these areas including the Wildlife Trust, English Heritage and Local Access Forums.

Development of a viable business model for Leicestershire's Records Centres

4. The Partnership are considering options for the future management and funding of Leicestershire's Records Centres – ecological, geological and historic.

Why do we have records centres?

5. Local Planning Authorities have a duty under the Planning Acts to understand the ecological, geological and historic characteristics of their areas and to use this understanding to inform their planning policies,

decisions and service provision. This process is also further supported by other environmental law and national policy objectives which set out the importance of protecting and enhancing our historic and natural environments and accompanying duties local authorities have to do that.

6. Record Centres provide this understanding - collecting and analysing information about Leicestershire's local environments. They have also provided a focus for local communities and communities of interest to participate and contribute to the knowledge of their local environments. Specifically, Development plan policies and planning decisions should be based upon up-to-date information about the environmental characteristics of their areas. These characteristics should include the relevant biodiversity and geological resources of the area. In reviewing environmental characteristics local authorities should assess the potential to sustain and enhance those resources. Planning authorities should ensure that they have evidence about the historic environment and heritage assets in their area and that this is publicly documented. The level of detail of the evidence should be proportionate and sufficient to inform adequately the plan-making process. Local planning authorities (LPAs) should either maintain or have access to a historic environment record. Local planning authorities should use the evidence to assess the type, numbers, distribution, significance and condition of heritage assets and the contribution that they may make to their environment now and in the future.

The current management arrangement of the record centres

7. Over the past 10 years or so, the arrangement has been as follows. A Service Level Agreement (SLA) exists between the County Council and each District Council (except for Charnwood). There is a fee for each SLA paid by the Districts based on agreed workloads. The SLA is for the provision of specialist advice relating to mainly the processing of planning applications and forms part of the statutory function of the local planning authority.
8. The specialist advice the County Council provides to local planning authorities is based on the collation, curation and analysis provided by the data held in the records. The cost of the management and upkeep of these records are not covered by the SLA's but is met entirely by the County Council who is finding it increasingly more difficult to support them in the way that they have been.
9. The financial responsibility for maintaining records centres has never been set out by central government. Consequently, who runs the various records centres varies from area to area across the country. Ecology and geology centres in England are run equally by Local Authorities, or Wildlife Trusts or as separate units. Historic Environment Records are largely run by County Councils or unitary bodies.

Future funding options

10. Therefore, there is a need to consider options for the future of the record centres. The options for increased support are:
- Other local planning authorities contribute to the budgets needed to run them - currently there is no support from most local planning authorities.
 - Increase commercial charges - charges are currently made within the range of charges used in other record centres. Leicestershire are normally in the middle or the top third.
 - Increased use by external Heritage Lottery projects. There is scope for local or parish-based projects to fund surveys or products from the record centres on a contract basis to everyone's benefit.
 - Other funding, such as that supplied by charitable trusts. Most of this category of funding would have to go through another charity, for contract work, or the status of the record centres would have to be changed.

Future Management Options

11. The Partnership is also considering a range of business models which could support the long term management of the centres.
- **Option 1 - Leicestershire and Rutland Environmental Record Centre (LRERC) remains based with the County Council -**
Under the current arrangements of management, with the County Council paying most of the on-costs. There are two budget options:
 - o Retain within the County Council with a declining County Council budget and other LPAs only paying for the planning service,
 - o the current declining budget is supplemented by other LPAs and other funding sources so that more than a basic service can be provided.
 - **Option 2 - the record centre function service is floated off –** The current record service is floated off as an arms length unit or community enterprise.
 - **Option 3 - the record centre function is placed in a charitable trust –** the record service function placed in a charitable trust.
There are two options here:
 - o to create a new charitable trust to accommodate LRERC
 - o base it with an existing third sector organization such as the Wildlife Trust.Both could supply a LPA service on a contract basis, and the Recording Community service on an in-kind basis, or one subsidised by the LPAs or from other external funding.
 - **Option 4 – the record centre function** is split between a local

- planning authority service and the wider Recording Community Service. The local planning authority service could be based with the County Council or another local planning authority. Joint funding from the local planning authorities would be expected.
- **Option 5 - the record centre function provided by a commercial (for profit) contractor** where costs would be distributed to users to, according to use.
 - **Option 6 - the record centre function is no longer supported by local authorities** with no long-term support for any recording, or advice, apart from what is already available from free sources and existing historic ones.
12. A task and finish group has been convened to meet in late January and February comprising of partners from the county and a district council and experts from the voluntary and state sector covering all recording disciplines. This group would develop a firm proposal which would be presented to the next meeting of the Natural and Historic Environment Partnership on March 26th, and considered by the Environment Board at its next meeting.

Links to other Environment Board partnerships

13. **Waste & Street Scene** – there is no direct link to the work of the Waste & Street Scene contained within this report.
14. **Flood Risk Management** - there is no direct link to the work of the Flood Risk Management contained within this report.
15. **Climate Change** – there is no direct link to the work of Leicestershire’s Climate Change Partnership contained within this report.

Where next?

16. The Environment Board will ask the specially convened task group Natural & Historic Environment Partnership to consider their views on the service delivery models and to bring a proposed model and source of funding back to the Environment Board to consider at its next meeting.

Recommendation

17. It is recommended that the Environment Board note the ongoing work the Natural and Historic Environment Partnership and provide comments on the further development of a long term and sustainable business model for Leicestershire’s records centres.

Officer(s) to Contact:

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**Service Delivery
Committee**

6 March 2012

Matter for Decision

Title:

**Proposed Byelaws
Prevention of (1) Vehicles on Road Margins and
Verges, and (2) Playing Games on Highways to the
Annoyance of Local Residents**

Author:

Kalv Garcha, Acting Head of Corporate Resources,
Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer

1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to inform Committee of feedback received from residents to proposals to adopt byelaws for the prevention of vehicles on road margins and verges and the playing of games on highways to the annoyance of local residents, and to consider, having regard to this response, whether to proceed with adoption of byelaws.

2. Recommendations

That, having regard to the response received to consultations on the matter, Council be recommended:-

- a) Not to proceed with the making of byelaws on the playing of games on highways, and
- b) To apply to make byelaws regulating vehicles on road margins and verges on these roads that Committee considers are appropriate.

3. Information

Following consideration of this matter by Committee at its meeting on 25 October 2011, feedback has been received on the question of introducing byelaws to address these two issues through replies from residents to an article contained in the most recent edition of 'Letterbox'.

The article elicited a total of 133 responses. In addition, officers have been consulted to identify those roads that have a history of generating complaints of these activities.

Residents were asked if they considered if they had a problem with driving on verges, or nuisance caused by playing of games on the highway in their area. The table attached at Appendix 1, summarises the location of each response.

a) Playing games on highways to the annoyance of local residents

Officers were unable to identify a location where there was a persistent problem with playing of games on the highway.

From the representations received, members will see that there appears to be little

demand to implement a byelaw regulating the playing of games on the highway. Only three residents considered that this was a problem in their road and in none of these cases were there representations from a neighbour to support this view, as they all referred to different roads.

b) Prevention of vehicles on road margins and verges

As far as preventing vehicles from using margins and verges of roads is concerned, there is a much stronger response from residents. 131 responses were received identifying specific roads. It can be seen that, in a number of instances, certain roads have been identified by several residents.

In addition, officers identified Churchill Close and Wigston Road in Oadby and Aylestone Lane and Holmden Avenue, Wigston and Gloucester Crescent in South Wigston as roads where complaints about vehicles on highway margins and verges were regularly received.

It would be difficult to justify the imposition of a byelaw in instances where perhaps only a small number of resident in a road considered that there was a problem. I have, therefore, listed in Appendix 2 to this report those roads where either two or more representations have been received, or where officers have noted a history of complaints in this regard.

Committee is asked to consider whether, on the strength of the information received, there is justification and support for applying to introduce a byelaw to regulate this issue on the roads listed, or whether or not other roads should or should not be included.

In the event of Committee considering that a byelaw is justified, then it is requested to consider the extent of coverage of the byelaw, having regard to the feedback received. Officers will look to bring a report to Council at its next meeting, for draft approval of a byelaw and the extent of its coverage.

4. Financial and Resource Implications (PL)

There would be initial costs in advertising the making of the byelaw and then the provision of street lamp signs indicating its existence at appropriate locations. This would be in the region of £3000, for which no budget provision has been made.

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Implications	
Health	See "Community Safety" below
Environment	Indiscriminate parking on, and damage to, highway verges will be minimised
Community Safety	Byelaws can assist in minimising risks to the safety and well-being of residents.
Human Rights	No significant implications
Equal Opportunities	No significant implications
Risk Assessment	See Community Safety above
Value for Money	No significant implications
Equalities	No significant implications
Legal	All statutory requirements will be identified and complied with.

YOUR VIEWS MATTER			APPENDIX 1
Location	Ward	Number of Complaints re Parking on Grass Verges	Number of Complaints re Playing Ball Games in the Street
WIGSTON			
<u>Wigston St Wolstans</u>			
Cleveland Road, Wigston		2	0
Estoril Avenue, Wigston		3	0
Gladstone Street, Wigston		1	0
Hayes Road, Wigston		1	0
Mere Road, Wigston		3	0
Oadby Road, Wigston		4	0
Shenley Road, Wigston		1	0
Thirlmere Road, Wigston		1	0
Thorpe Drive, Wigston		1	1
Two Steeples Square, Wigston		1	0
Victoria Street, Wigston		1	0
<u>Wigston All Saints</u>			
48 Launceston Road, corner of Salcombe Close, Wigston		1	0
Cedar Avenue, Wigston		1	0
Central Avenue, Wigston		3	0
Georgeham Close, Wigston		1	0
Homestead Drive, Wigston		5	0
Moat Street, Wigston		2	0
Seaton Road, Wigston		1	0
Welford Road, Wigston		2	0
<u>Wigston Fields</u>			
Aylestone Lane from Rolleston Road to West Avenue, (Service Road), Wigston		1	0
Bakewell Road, Wigston		1	0
Carlton Drive, Wigston		1	0
Castleton Road, Wigston		1	0
Dukes Close, Wigston		1	1
Manor Street, Wigston		1	0
Queens Drive, Wigston		1	0
Repton Road, Wigston		2	1
Roehampton Drive, Wigston		1	0
<u>Wigston Meadowcourt</u>			
146 Welford Road, Wigston		1	0
Blaksley Road, Wigston		1	0
Brington Close, Wigston		1	0
Foston Gate, Wigston		2	0
Guthlaxton Way, Wigston		3	0
Harrington Road, Wigston		1	0
Kelmarsh Avenue, Wigston		2	0
Kilby Drive, Wigston		1	0
Linford Close, Wigston		1	0
Ravensthorpe Road, Wigston		2	0
Simons Close, Wigston		1	0
Turville Close, Wigston		1	0
Tyringham Road, Wigston		1	0
Yarwell Drive, Wigston		1	0

Location	Ward	Number of Complaints re Parking on Grass Verges	Number of Complaints re Playing Ball Games in the Street
OADBY			
<u>Oadby Brocks Hill</u>			
Ashtree Road, Oadby		2	0
Coombe Rise, Oadby		2	0
Fairstone Hill, Oadby		5	2
Hidcote Road, Oadby		3	0
Junction Briar Walk, Briar Meads, Oadby		1	0
Kew Drive, Oadby		1	0
Orchard Close, Oadby		2	0
Richmond Way, Oadby		1	0
Shipston Hill, Oadby		1	0
Turner Rise, Oadby		1	0
Wickham Road, Oadby		3	2
Windsor Close, Oadby		1	0
<u>Oadby St Peters</u>			
Brabazon Road, Oadby		4	0
Chestnut Avenue, Oadby		4	0
Foxhunter Drive, Oadby		1	0
Harborough Road, Oadby		1	0
Honeywell Close, Oadby		1	0
Kenilworth Drive, Oadby		2	0
Leicester Road, Oadby		1	0
London Road, Oadby		1	0
New Street, Oadby		1	0
Primrose Hill, Oadby		1	0
Rosemead Drive, Oadby		2	0
Seagrave Road, Oadby		1	0
Southfields Avenue, Oadby		2	0
Wigston Road, Oadby		5	0
<u>Oadby Uplands</u>			
Brookside Drive, Oadby		1	0
Copse Close, Oadby		2	0
Dove Rise, Oadby		3	0
Half Moon Crescent, Oadby		1	0
Launde Road		3	0
Queen Street, Oadby		1	0
Severn Road, Oadby		1	0
Somerby Drive, Oadby		1	0
Tamar Road, Oadby		1	0
Uplands Road, Oadby		5	0
<u>Oadby Grange</u>			
Bankart Avenue, Oadby		1	0
Manor Road Extension, Oadby		1	0
Manor Road, Oadby		1	0
Powys Avenue, Oadby		1	0
Stoughton Road, Oadby		2	0
Stoughton, Close, Oadby		1	0
The Broadway, Oadby		1	0
The Fairway, Oadby		1	0
The Yews, Oadby		2	0
Woodfield Road, Oadby		1	0
<u>Oadby Woodlands</u>			
Florence Wragg Way, Oadby		1	0
Glen Road, Oadby		1	0
Smore Slade Hills, Oadby		1	0

Location	Ward	Number of Complaints re Parking on Grass Verges	Number of Complaints re Playing Ball Games in the Street
SOUTH WIGSTON			
	<u>South Wigston</u>		
Clifford Street, South Wigston		1	0
Crete Avenue, South Wigston		1	0
Dorset Avenue, South Wigston		2	0
Gloucester Crescent, South Wigston		5	0
Kirkdale Road, South Wigston		1	0
Lansdowne Grove, South Wigston		1	0
Moore Close & Crete Avenue, South Wigston		1	0

Those Roads Attracting Two or More Response

Oadby

Coombe Rise
Fairstone Hill
Hidcote Road
Orchard Close
Copse Close
Dove Rise

Wickham Road
Brabazon Road
Chestnut Avenue
Kenilworth Drive
Stoughton Road
The Yews

Rosemead Drive
Southfields Avenue
Wigston Road
Churchill Close
Launde Road
Uplands Road

Wigston

Estoril Aveune
Mere Road
Oadby Road
Central Avenue
Homestead Drive

Cleveland Road
Moat Street
Welford Road
Repton Road
Holmden Avenue

Foston Gate
Kelmarsh Avenue
Ravensthorpe Road
Guthlaxton Way
Aylestone Lane

South Wigston

Gloucester Crescent

Dorset Avenue

Agenda Item 8



**Services Delivery
Committee**

6 March 2012

Matter for Decision

Title: **Parade of the B (Leicestershire and Derbyshire Yeomanry, Prince Albert's Own) Squadron, The Royal Yeomanry– Authorisation of Street Closure Order**

Author: **Ian Dobson – Legal and Licensing Officer**

1 Introduction

This report requests authority for the making of a road closure order, under powers contained in the Town Police Clauses Act 1847, in order to enable the B (Leicestershire and Derbyshire Yeomanry, Prince Albert's Own) Squadron, The Royal Yeomanry to march in South Wigston, on Saturday 19 May 2012, in connection with the Squadron being granted Honorary Freedom of the Borough status.

2 Information

It is proposed that the Squadron march from Blaby Road Park, pausing at St Thomas' Church, at which point speeches and an inspection will be made. Then the parade will move along Saffron Road to the barracks on Tigers Road. Authority is required to enable the road to be closed, in the interests of public safety, to allow this to take place on Saturday, 19 May 2012. It is anticipated that the parade will commence at 11:00am and end at 12:30pm.

A risk assessment will be carried out and the emergency services have been notified of the intended closure.

3 Financial Implications

The Council's costs in administering the road closure making process are minimal and can be met from general fund balances.

4 Recommendations

That the Director of Services be authorised to make a road closure order, under powers contained in section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847, in order to enable the parade to take place.

Implications	
Health	The parade has road safety implications
Environment	No significant impact.
Community Safety	The necessary risk assessment has been carried out.
Human Rights	No significant impact.
Equal Opportunities	No significant impact.
Risk Assessment	A risk assessment has been carried out.
Value for Money	There are no significant costs involved.
Equalities	No significant impact.
Legal	The procedures followed meet safety requirements

Agenda Item 9



**Service Delivery
Committee**

**Tuesday 6th march
2012**

Decision

Title: **Boulter Crescent Community Flat**

Author: **Simon Folwell, Head of Housing Services**

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides members with an update on the project and seeks approval to extend the use of the facility for a minimum of one year.

2 Information

- 2.1 The community flat at Boulter Crescent has been operating for over 12 months, during which time the level and breadth of service has significantly increased and engagement with hard to reach tenants is developing well. This has included:
- a support and counselling group for victims of domestic violence,
 - a 'stay and play' session, for parents with young children
 - residents coffee mornings and other social events (such as the Christmas fair)
 - regular weekly surgeries by the Police and staff involved in dealing with ASB and housing officers (this has also provided better access to other Council services, such as benefits advice)
 - counselling sessions by the Alcohol and Drugs Worker
 - health visitor surgeries and sessions, including smoking cessation and 'keep fit'
- 2.2 With the project gaining momentum, the potential to develop further services has increased as more partners identify the benefits of working within the local community and have made a firm commitment to continue this work. For example, plans are now in place through adult education to offer computer classes and healthy eating sessions.
- 2.3 Ongoing consultation and involvement with residents has provided a clear outline of local issues which have been addressed through the council, the county council or other partners and has resulted in improved relationships with the authority. In particular, engagement with teen parents and families with young children has been important in terms of highlighting the types of services and assistance that local people want to see (the work with adult education services being one example).

- 2.4 The current planning consent expires at the end of April this year and a separate application has been made to extend this consent for a further 12 months.
- 2.5 With the community flat now providing a central location for activities on the estate, a number of residents have come forward to set up a tenants group. This is now in its early stages of development and offers opportunities for the group to access funding streams for community action and events. Already a group of residents have come forward to help to set up a local gardening project, which not only links in with our corporate priorities, but also has input and support from Leicester University.
- 2.6 The community flat is a strong example of how the different aspects of the Council's work (i.e. neighbourhood management, community safety, housing) can be brought together with other partners organisations, to provide better outcomes for local people. This has been an innovative project, with the first year showing the potential that this approach has for future joint working.

3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 The budget for the community flat in the current financial year is £8,800, and this will be replicated in 2012/13. This budget is financed through contributions from community safety and neighbourhood management (approximately 30% and 70% respectively).
- 3.2 We are currently through to the second stage of a Big Lottery bid which, if successful, will provide funding for staffing and resources to make the project self sustaining for the next three years. The final application must be submitted by mid May and would require confirmation of the required planning permission. Value for money has been achieved through sponsorship of events by local businesses and partnerships e.g. Walkers Crisps provided refreshments and presents for a family Christmas event. If the council does not develop the project to its full potential the opportunity to realise outcomes from previously allocated resources may be lost.

4 Recommendations

Members are asked to approve the continuation of the project for a minimum of 12 months.

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Implications	
Health	As noted above, a number of health-related agencies are planning to make use of the facility.
Environment	No direct implications
Community Safety	This has been a key driver in establishing the flat and is one of the main outcomes in terms of an improvement within the locality
Human Rights	No implications
Equal Opportunities	No implications
Risk Assessment	The key risk is that the facility is not used to its full capacity and/or fails to deliver real benefits to local residents. Monitoring the use and outcomes of the flat, as noted above,

	will help to minimize this risk.
Value for Money	The facility has the potential to offer good value for money, as for a limited revenue cost, there is scope to have a direct impact on improving the lives of local people, as well as bringing agencies together to work in a more focused way. However, this can only be established once the project has had time to run. The monitoring of its usage and outcomes will be essential here to be able to make such an assessment.
Equalities	An inherent feature of the project is to encourage local residents to access and take up services that could be of benefit to them. Through this, we hope to address some of the underlying inequalities that exist for certain residents.
Legal	No implications



Service Delivery Committee	6 March 2012	Decision
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**Title: Stepping Stones Countryside Management Project
Contributions**

Author: Jez Crooks, Acting Head of Environmental Development

1 Introduction

1.1 The Stepping Stones Countryside Management Project (SSCMP) has been established since 1992 and represents various local authorities throughout Leicestershire, by working in partnership to deliver practical projects and events relating to countryside and the environment. These in turn serve to achieve targets in the Nature Conservation Strategy and Leicestershire’s Biodiversity Action Plan, whilst encouraging local people to learn more about their local environment. This work carried out by the SSCMP is only made possible through funding from all partners.

1.2 Further to the decision of the Services committee report takes forward the decision of the Services Committee on 10th January 2006, where it was agreed that the Borough Council would continue to financially support SSCMP from 2006-2011 and continued to support SSCMP in the year 2011-2012 this report now seeks approval for the same annual contribution for the next financial year: 2012-2013.

2 Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that Members agree to financially support the project for 2012-2013 to the level of £3,938 (subject to agreement of this particular item within the Countryside and Biodiversity Service budget for 2012-13) and provide ‘in principle’ support for the Project for a further two years – until 31 March 2015.

3 Information

3.1 Stepping Stones Project Officers work closely with Oadby and Wigston Borough Council and support a wide range of work undertaken throughout the year. Projects previously supported by Stepping Stones have included:

- 100 free trees for Wigston Road Allotments
- Contribution towards running costs of Apple Day
- Contribution towards running of Fludes Lane Woodland Green Gym
- Contribution towards the reprint of the Strolls on Your Doorstep leaflet
- Guided walk in the Borough as part of Leicestershire Walking Week
- Two Steeples Walk leaflet redesigned and reprinted
- Grant for work in school-grounds at the Meadows Community Primary School

- Designed the outdoor learning areas for Glenmere Primary School and Gartree High School
- Advice and site visit on farm improvement work
- Training courses in the Borough have included hedge-laying

3.2 At its meeting on 26th October 2011, the Stepping Stones Project Members Steering Group resolved that support be given to District Officers in drawing attention to their individual committees the agreement to financially support the SSCMP for 2012-2013 at the level of £3,938.00.

3.3 Appendix 1 provides an update on the work of Stepping Stones between April 2011 and October 2011. In addition to representing the Borough on Countryside and Environmental matters at a strategic level, work has also been carried out specifically in the Borough. This has included a community green-space grant to Gartree High School for a food-growing project, feasibility work on green infrastructure for employment sites, providing support to tree wardens, providing comments on planning applications and the funding of three weekend hedge-laying courses. The latter has brought unmanaged hedgerows into sustainable management, improving the environment and encouraging partnership working with neighbouring landlords.

3.4 Areas of work that the Borough Council intends to seek Stepping Stones involvement in the future include the Borough's Green Infrastructure Plan, Nature Conservation Strategy, Landscape Character Assessment and the Direction for Growth. In particular it is envisaged that SSCMP will be able to support the Borough Council in green infrastructure work associated with Master-planning and evidence base for the Direction for Growth. In addition the Green Infrastructure Plan has identified projects such as planting a mature tree avenue down the A6 and extending the width of Fludes Lane Woodland to incorporate land on Severn Road flood-basin and Windrush Open Space and has identified SSCMP as a possible source for delivery. SSCMP are also involved in the Farming for the Future Project and the Woodlands in my Backyard project, both of which have the capacity to be initiated within the Borough. Therefore the work that SSCMP undertakes plays an important role in the 'Greening of the Borough'.

3.5 Stepping Stones, as part of the Jubilee celebrations, are running a 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee' initiative in which parish councils can receive funding to plant one specimen tree valued up to £200. As the Borough Council has no parishes the scheme is being made available to five wards within the borough. The volunteer tree wardens, working with the Council, will find suitable sites for these trees and submit the applications.

4 Financial Implications (PL)

4.1 The proposed Countryside and Biodiversity Service budget for 2012-13 takes account of the level of funding required for the Borough Council (£3,938) to continue to support the Stepping Stones Project in 2012-13.

4.2 This report seeks Members 'in principle' support for the Stepping Stones Project for a further two years – until 31st March 2015. There would also be financial implications for a further two years – until March 2015. However, it should be noted that the report is seeking 'in principle' support and Members would still need to approve a financial contribution towards SSCMP in each of the subsequent years.

Implications	
Health	The Stepping Stones Project has a positive impact upon the health of local residents.
Environment	The work carried out by Stepping Stones improves the environment, making it a more desirable place for people and wildlife.
Community Safety	Part of the work carried out by Stepping Stones may contribute to community safety.
Human Rights	No impact
Equal Opportunities	Any member of the public can attend training courses, but some may be unsuitable for people with certain disabilities
Risk Assessment	No impact
Value for Money	The Stepping Stones Project is funded by a number of different partners. This partnership working brings with it value for money.
Equalities	No impact
Legal	No impact

Appendix 1

Stepping Stones Project Steering Group - Progress Report Wednesday 26th October 2011, County Hall, Glenfield.

Purpose of the Report

To inform members of the progress of the Stepping Stones Project from April 2011 to October 2011.

Information

1. The Action Plan - Year 3 Detail

The project is now in year 3 of the current 3 year Action Plan.

Key achievements

- Monitoring and evaluation for training, events and grants is ongoing. A recording and monitoring framework is in place for key targets so that the project can monitor progress year on year.
- This year the project did not run the Wildlife on Your Doorstep event, following a reduction in the Stepping Stones Project it was decided that this event would cease.
- The Project, in partnership with the Woodland Trust, launched the second WIMBY scheme this year. The scheme is aimed at landowners, farmers or the community, with a hectare or more available for tree planting. Funding for the scheme will comprise of a combination of Stepping Stones Project funding, more woods funding through the woodland trust, private funding and or community funding.
- The project launched 2 new community grant schemes. The "Connecting People and Wildlife Grant", aimed at larger community environmental schemes with up to £2,500 funding available, and the smaller Community Green Space grant with a maximum grant level of £500.
- Andy Jackson has been seconded to work part time on the new Farming and Water for the Future Project. The scheme is an OnTrent partnership that is seeking to deliver rural land use and management change along the Broughton Astley and Whetstone Brooks in order to reduce flood risk downstream. More information on this scheme can be found on the OnTrent web site. Whilst Andy is on secondment for this year Sam Village has taken on additional hours in order to provide cover for the project.

Grants and Green Infrastructure Schemes

“Connecting People” and “Wildlife Grant” applications have been received from four applicants with a grant value of £8700. Schemes include a Sensory Garden in Narborough and village tree planting in Markfield. The newly created Stepping Stones Community Green Space Grant has proved popular. The Grant, which has a simpler application process and offers smaller grants, has seen five applications so far. Applications have been received from Gartree High School in Oadby and a housing association in Braunstone Town for raised growing areas on their sites and also from St Peter and Saint Paul Primary School in Syston towards the creation of a wildlife garden.

Landscape and Wildlife Grant Applications (farmers and landowners) have been received from two applicants so far for schemes at Oadby and Markfield. The schemes will see 600 metres of hedge laid in total.

WIMBY

Schemes, comprising approximately 1 hectare each of tree planting, are currently being considered at Stoney Stanton and Rothley. WIMBY has been very well promoted this year with articles in the NFU and Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group Newsletters and National Journals in addition to a live radio interview on BBC Radio Leicester.

2. Awareness Raising and Strategic GI work

- The Project is represented on the Green Space East Midlands Funding and Community working groups, River Soar Partnership, Soar Wreak Initiative Group, Lubbethorpe SUE Masterplan group and the Leicestershire Parks, Open Spaces and Countryside Network.
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council have asked Stepping Stones Project Officers to undertake a study into delivering green infrastructure improvements within employment sites in the Borough. To date the Officers have focused on desk top studies and site visits of the Magna Road and Cornwall Road estates.
- Stepping Stones has been involved in the development of a Nature Improvement Area bid called “Reconnecting the Soar Valley”. Nature Improvement Areas are the new name for the “Ecological Restoration Zones” proposed by the Making Space for Nature [Review](#) that followed the Government’s Natural Environment White Paper. Funding is being made available through Defra for the development of an initial 12 areas.

Although the characteristics of Nature Improvement Areas will vary across the country according to what is possible and what is needed, these will be places where opportunities to deliver ecological networks, both in terms of large area scale (at least over 10,000 hectares) and valuable benefits accruing to wildlife and people, are particularly high.

- The Project has assisted Chief Executive’s at Leicestershire County Council with the development of their Green Space Community Consultation exercise. The consultation aims to find out which green spaces are of particular importance to local communities. The evidence can then be used to contribute to any future development of a new Government designation for “locally important green space”.

3. Community Action

- Certified training this year includes Coppice Management, Hurdle Making, Hedge Laying Levels 1 and 2 and Dry Stone Walling. The Coppice Management and Hurdle Making Courses are to take place at Ratby Burroughs Wood near Ratby. The Hedge Laying level 1 and 2 courses are likely to result in approximately 150 metres of hedge being laid at the Grange Country Park in Oadby. For the 2nd year in a row the Dry Stone Walling course that will take place at Billa Barra in Markfield. As ever these courses are extremely popular and likely to be fully booked.
- The Project continues to support 140 Tree Wardens in the County, organising training and events throughout the year including a woodland management training event at Bedford Purlieus National Nature Reserve near Peterborough.

4. Green Wedges

- Identified as target areas in the Action Plan, Green Wedges will continue to be a focus of work for the Project. Green Wedges can provide vital green space to existing and new residents, from the urban fringe right into Leicester.
- The *Sence and Soar Green Wedge Forum* took place in August of this year. The group has overseen the production of a new leaflet promoting sites of interest within the Green Wedge.

Following the designation of Glen Parva Local Nature Reserve the Project continues to support the Working Group in delivering improvements to this important site.

The Project has advocated the inclusion of an access and habitat improvement scheme along a section of the Grand Union Canal that runs through the Green Wedge in a Nature Improvement Area bid. The scheme developed by British Waterways and Stepping Stones could have a total value of over £150,000 if the bid is successful.

- Stepping Stones Project has supported the development of a new “Country Park” to the north of Countesthorpe. The park was created as part of new housing development in the village.

Decisions Required

Member’s endorsement of the progress to date.

Contact Officers: Andy Jackson 0116 305 7221
 Sam Village 0116 305 7264



Service Delivery Committee	6 March 2012	Decision
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**Title: Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy
Update 2011**

Author: Jez Crooks Acting Head of Environment Development

1 Introduction

This report is to inform Members of the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update 2011 following recommendation by Leicestershire’s Environment Board, to request the Council to adopt the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update 2011.

Information

1. The Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update 2011 provides a policy framework for sustainable waste management over the period to 2020. It also represents the Council’s continuing commitment to the Leicestershire Waste Partnership.
2. The Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy (LMWMS) was previously revised in 2006. The update reflects changes in performance, good practice, waste policy and legislation, and the economic climate since that time.

Background

3. The first LMWMS was adopted by the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (LWP) in 2002. The LMWMS was significantly revised in 2006, covering the period up to 2020.
4. Since 2006, the LWP has made significant improvements in performance, including increasing recycling and composting performance (National Indicator 192) from 42.68% in 2006/07 to 54.02% in 2010/11.
5. It was intended that the LMWMS would be subject to a major review every 5 years. As scheduled, the review of the LMWMS began in 2009. However, the process was subsequently put on hold for a number of months pending the outcome of the Government Review of Waste Policy in England and Leicestershire County Council’s decision on whether to proceed with the long term waste treatment procurement project following the withdrawal of

Private Finance Initiative (PFI) credits in October 2010, as part of the comprehensive spending review.

6. In September 2011, the Member Steering Group of the LWP supported a revised approach to the completion of the review of the LMWMS. The revised approach included the production of an 'updated' LMWMS and the retention of the 2006 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This approach allows the LWP to refresh its commitment to joint working and performance improvement without the need for a resource intensive full scale review.
7. The update was undertaken by officers with the support of an external consultant providing quality assurance and technical advice. In addition, the consultant carried out a screening process and found that there was 'no significant environmental impact from the update to the Strategy' and therefore a new SEA was not required. The statutory consultees (the Environment Agency, English Heritage and Natural England) were consulted for their endorsement of this assessment. A response was received from Natural England, supporting the assessment. The determination that an SEA is not required, the reasons behind this decision and the supporting response from Natural England have been included within a Determination Report, which is publicly available from the Partnership website (www.lesswaste.org.uk).

Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update

8. The attached LMWMS update (Appendix 1) remains broadly consistent with the 2006 Strategy, although the document has been substantially restructured. The update retains the targets from the 2006 LMWMS, including the target to recycle or compost 58% of Local Authority Collected Waste by 2017.
9. The main areas of change are outlined below:
 - a) All performance figures have been updated to reflect the latest audited data (2010/11).
 - b) There have been a number of changes in legislation and policy since the 2006 LMWMS was adopted. The update takes account of these changes including:
 - the inclusion of the updated waste hierarchy, in line with the revised EU Waste Framework Directive;
 - the Government Review of Waste Policy in England 2011, allowing for the expansion of trade waste collection services;
 - the planned removal of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) after the end of the 2012/13 scheme year.

- c) Minor modifications have been made to the Vision and Strategy Objectives, and a new Strategy Objective has been added reflecting the increasing importance of carbon as a driver for waste management services.

Objective 12: Continually seek to reduce carbon emissions, including the potential for renewable or low carbon energy generation to improve the impact of the service on climate change.

- d) A new waste prevention indicator has been added (kilogrammes of household waste per household) as a gauge of the success of waste prevention and reuse activities. The LWP aims to achieve a continuous improvement (i.e. a year on year decrease) against this indicator.
- e) The residual waste treatment and disposal section has been substantially rewritten to reflect changes including the withdrawal of the PFI credits for the County Council's long term waste treatment procurement project and the planned removal of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) at the end of 2012/13. The LMWMS update remains 'non-technology specific'. The update commits the County Council to develop a Residual Waste Disposal, Treatment and Transfer Plan to assess future requirements for treatment / disposal capacity for the county's residual waste for the period up to 2020.
- f) The update allows for the expansion of trade waste collection services (particularly to small and medium size enterprises) following the planned removal of the LATS. The LATS has been a barrier to local authorities increasing services provision.

10. The Leicestershire Environment Commissioning Hub Board recommended the updated LMWMS for adoption by each constituent Partner Authority on the 8th February 2012.

11. The updated Strategy will be supported by a detailed Action Plan setting out how the LWP will achieve its strategic objectives. The Action Plan will be developed by the Partnership's officer group and presented to a future meeting of the Environment Commissioning Hub Board for endorsement.

12. The Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) carried out for the 2006 LMWMS has been updated to reflect the changes in the new document. The EIA does not identify any equality barriers being caused as a result of the update of the LMWMS.

3 Financial Implications (PL)

The approval of this strategy has no immediate financial impact. Any specific schemes that fall under this strategy would be the subject of prior approval by committees of this authority first.

4 Recommendations

13. It is recommended that Members agree the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy Update 2011 for formal adoption by the authority.

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Implications	
Health	The efficient and timely collection of waste is essential to ensure a clean environment free from disease and infestation.
Environment	The recycling of waste products is essential to preserve natural resources and reduce climate change gasses.
Community Safety	The services are designed and monitored so as not to present a risk to the community.
Human Rights	There is a statutory obligation for local authorities to collect and dispose of municipal waste.
Equal Opportunities	Services are flexibly applied to provide equal access for all residents of the borough.
Risk Assessment	Strategic and operational risk assessments are carried out before the implementation of any service changes to mitigate the risk to the authority and public.
Value for Money	Waste handling is carried out in a manner to maximise income and service provision and minimise expenditure.
Equalities	Waste collection services are adapted to meet diverse needs of residents.
Legal	



Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy

Strategy Update 2011

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Document Sign-off

Project Manager:

Signature:
 Printed Name:
 Position:
 Date:

Project Executive:

Signature:
 Printed Name:
 Position:
 Date:

1. Foreword

Waste matters. We live in a world that is consuming resources at a rate which the planet cannot sustain and waste is one of the biggest challenges facing all of us.

Nationally, the government is looking closely at how we manage waste. Local authorities, businesses and communities are being asked to play a part in tackling rubbish and using resources more responsibly.

Here in Leicestershire, the County, district and borough councils work together as the Leicestershire Waste Partnership (the Partnership). We manage the collection and disposal of waste in the County and one of our biggest priorities is to reduce the amount of rubbish we send to landfill.

In 2006, our Strategy detailed our aims to prevent waste in the first place, encourage reuse of materials, increase recycling and composting, and treat what's left over before disposal.

In the last five years we have achieved a great deal. Our district and borough councils have invested in recycling collections and a range of materials can be recycled by householders at their kerbside and local bring sites. Alongside this, improvements at Recycling and Household Waste Sites (RHWS) have helped residents recycle even more.

An innovative Mechanical Biological Treatment facility has been built in the county to divert even more rubbish from landfill in the medium term.

So far all of our challenging targets have been met, making Leicestershire one of the top performers for recycling and composting with rates of over 54% – well above the national average.

This is a fantastic achievement, made possible through the hard work of residents and the dedication of our local authorities to provide quality services. However, the challenge of meeting future targets is very real, particularly given the financial difficulties we all face.

We're living in a rapidly changing world. This update of our waste Strategy considers the current issues facing local areas and explores our options for the future. It takes account of changes to legislation and good practice since the 2006 Strategy was adopted and considers the current economic climate and how this might impact upon our waste services.

You will find within this updated Strategy a continued commitment to reduce waste, recycle more and minimise our reliance on landfill.

We describe in the following pages our aim to manage waste in a way which meets the needs of Leicestershire's residents now and in the future. We will do this by providing high quality, coordinated services, which offer value for money.

We have considered the need to be flexible – and allow for new technology or changes in law. We will continue to lobby for the sustainable management of waste and resources.

We are aware of the importance of reducing carbon and we remain committed to managing Leicestershire's waste within the county or at nearby suitable facilities. Alongside this, we will work with local communities to raise awareness of wider environmental issues.

Building strong partnerships with our communities is at the heart of our waste Strategy. But we realise that, as local authorities, we must set an example. So as you read on, you will see a

commitment to reduce our own waste, buy responsibly, and to reduce our impact on the environment.

Overall, this updated Strategy sets out how our management of waste will contribute to environmental, social and economic well-being in Leicestershire.

Chair, Leicestershire Waste Partnership

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2. Executive Summary

This updated Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (the Strategy) sets out how the Partnership intends to manage municipal waste up to 2020. It builds upon the previous Strategy adopted in 2002, and revised in 2006, and takes account of developments since then, including changes in Government policy and work within Leicestershire that has significantly increased recycling and composting over the last ten years.

This Strategy update sets out the current position and objectives for the Partnership. It also sets out actions and targets which will form the basis for delivering those objectives.

The Strategy sets out the high-level actions and initiatives required to deliver the targets and objectives and will be accompanied by an Action Plan. The Action Plan will be a 'live' document that will require adaptation and modification in response to any fundamental changes to factors influencing the delivery of the service. Examples include: operational factors such as changes in waste quantities and composition; technological developments; changes in law or policy, and; the actual timing and performance of planned initiatives.

2.1. Why do we need a Waste Management Strategy?

Partner authorities work together to deliver waste and recycling services in Leicestershire. The Strategy enables the Partnership to jointly consider the type of services we would like to deliver, defines our vision and means by which those services might be delivered up to 2020.

The delivery of waste management services tend to be underpinned by long-term contracts of typically between 7 and 25 years, depending on the service and level of investment. It is therefore imperative that the Partnership undertake sound medium and long-term planning in order to meet national regulations and requirements as well as the needs of residents.

2.2. Our Strategic Vision

Leicestershire is pursuing a clear vision for sustainable waste management and resource use. Through the delivery of high quality, efficient services, waste should first be prevented from arising, be reused, recycled or composted. Any residual waste that has not been reused, recycled or composted should be treated before disposal so that further value can be recovered and so that the impact of final disposal is minimised.

Through the collaborative efforts of the Partnership, and in partnership with others, a majority of Leicestershire's waste will continue to be recycled, waste production will be in decline and local communities will be taking responsibility for the waste they produce.

2.3. Challenges and solutions

Since the establishment of the Partnership in 2002, recycling performance and the range of waste services offered to residents has been significantly improved, however, there remain many challenges ahead in meeting the Partnership's objectives in a stringent economic climate.

In keeping with a best practice approach to delivering and facilitating waste management services, the Partnership is committed to tackling climate change and wider environmental concerns and has sought to positively impact on those agendas where it is practical to do so.

The Partnership aspires to achieve a recycling rate of 58% for Local Authority Collected Waste by 2017, placing us at the forefront of performance nationally, but acknowledges that this level of recycling will be in part dependent on markets and regulatory guidance. We want to deliver the highest recycling rates we can whilst offering value for money and this means providing comprehensive services, which residents use to their full potential.

The eight partner authorities within the Partnership have committed to lead by example, expanding and consolidating services operating internally within council buildings, supporting staff of partner organisations to support the same strategic vision. The Partnership has also adopted a 'Waste Reduction Standard' which seeks, through purchasing policies and practices, to drive out any wasteful practices and improve cost effectiveness.

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3. Introduction

This document is the updated Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy (the Strategy), developed by the Partnership. It is a joint Strategy for Blaby District Council, Charnwood Borough Council, Harborough District Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Leicestershire County Council, Melton Borough Council, North West Leicestershire District Council and Oadby and Wigston Borough Council. Collectively, these local authorities comprise the Partnership.

The first Strategy was adopted by the Partnership in 2002 and a significant revision was undertaken in 2006 outlining how the Partnership planned to manage waste up to 2020.

This update remains consistent with the 2006 Strategy, although the document has been substantially restructured. Amendments that have been made take into account current good practice and reflect the latest thinking in relation to sustainable waste management. A formal determination process has been undertaken to ensure that this update remains consistent with the aims and objectives of the 2006 Strategy and that there are no new significant environmental impacts.

3.1. What waste is generated in Leicestershire?

The Strategy addresses all of the waste arisings within Leicestershire that come under the heading of Local Authority Collected Waste¹. This includes waste produced by households (including street sweepings, litter and waste collected at Recycling Household Waste Sites), as well as some commercial wastes, waste from municipal buildings and cleared up fly-tips.

In Leicestershire we generate around 315,000 tonnes (2010/11) of household waste a year. This waste is collected by the district and borough councils and via the County Council run Recycling and Household Waste Sites. In addition, around 31,000 tonnes of non-household waste is collected and managed by partner authorities. Collectively, all the waste managed by the Partnership is termed "Local Authority Collected Waste".

The following diagram illustrates the main sources of waste in the East Midlands, including approximate proportions of the waste².

¹ It should be noted that the term 'Local Authority Collected Waste' (LACW) is introduced because of the amended definition of municipal waste. The Partnership has the most control over waste for which it has the responsibility to collect and therefore the focus of the ambition of this Strategy is with regard to LACW, which is consistent with the 2006 Strategy. The new definition of Municipal Waste (which aligns the UK with the rest of Europe), also includes wastes that are similar to those from households and in some instances the local authorities have no control over how these are managed. It is acknowledged that the Partnership does have a role in supporting the management of other waste streams (see section 10 'Wider Wastes').

² Source: Waste Management Capacity in the East Midlands Report June 2009

Figure 1: Estimate of the composition of waste in the East Midlands



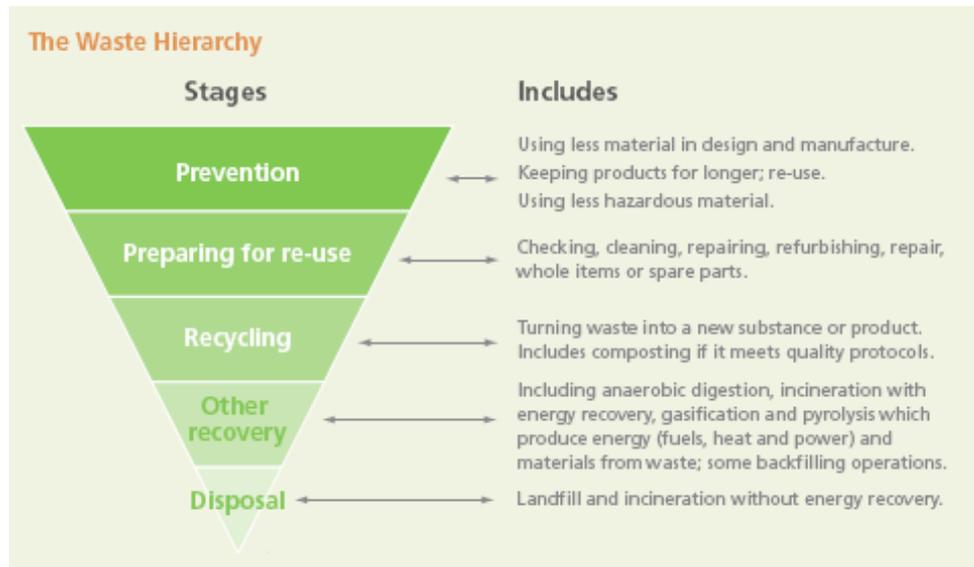
As can be seen from Figure 1, Construction & Demolition wastes and Commercial & Industrial wastes comprise the majority of waste arisings. This waste is usually managed by individual contracts between the producer of the waste (the business) and a private waste contractor. The private waste contractor will collect and may also treat / dispose of the waste. The Partnership plays a more restricted role for these waste streams as they are not under its control. However, this Strategy seeks to use the Partnership's influence to try and improve the management of these wastes (which are mostly landfilled at present) in addition to those for which the Partnership has direct control. This is a theme running through this Strategy, and is consistent with Government policy in this area.

After these waste streams, Local Authority Collected Waste is the main remaining waste stream in Leicestershire, and it is the duty of the Partnership to collect, manage and dispose of this waste.

3.2. Why do we need a Municipal Waste Management Strategy?

We are all contributing to the waste that is generated across the county and an unsustainable use of resources at current rates. Managing waste in a more sustainable way, in a climate of increasing costs and environmental considerations is therefore a high priority. Increasingly we are trying to reduce the amount of waste generated to lower these financial and environmental burdens, and place more emphasis on using waste that is produced as a resource that can be utilised, for example by recycling, composting and recovering energy from it.

This Strategy applies these sustainability principles, which are encapsulated in the waste management hierarchy as set out in the diagram below (Figure 2), and provides a clear and concise guide for the strategic management of most wastes.

Figure 2: The Waste Hierarchy³

These approaches require continued investment in new initiatives, collection systems and treatment facilities, which can take a long time to implement and need careful consideration in order to be successfully delivered as part of an integrated service. Furthermore, there is an increasing amount of environmental legislation designed to reduce our impact on the environment and encourage a more sustainable way of living (see the 'Achieving Sustainable Waste Management' section of this document). The Strategy seeks to provide a structured and coordinated implementation plan for the delivery of actions and services to respond to each of these challenges.

³ Government Review of Waste Policy in England 2011

4. Municipal Waste Services 2006 – 2011

4.1. Where have we come from?

This updated Strategy sets out the Partnership's plans for managing waste until 2020, however it is valuable to understand the journey waste management services have taken since the Strategy's last major review in 2006.

In the 2006 review a number of challenging targets were established and the accompanying Action Plan detailed a number of initiatives designed to increase the reuse, prevention and recycling of waste. The Action Plan was designed as a 'live' document so that the Partnership could react and respond to the ever changing political, financial and environmental context it works in.

In 2006, it was expected that the amount of waste produced in Leicestershire would increase by around 2% per annum. However, waste growth has actually decreased at an average rate of 1.5% between 2006/07 and 2010/11. It is likely that a large proportion of this reduction has been caused by the downturn in the worldwide economy, however, a series of waste prevention initiatives have also contributed, along with improvements implemented at the RHWS.

The development of the Waste Prevention and Reuse Plan in 2007 has allowed the Partnership to deliver many of the initiatives identified in 2006, whilst also being reactive to change. It includes a range of initiatives designed to encourage residents to reuse and prevent waste. This suite of activities has included a broad range of high profile promotional campaigns, including the Reuse Campaign, Love Food Hate Waste promotion and a variety of real nappy initiatives.

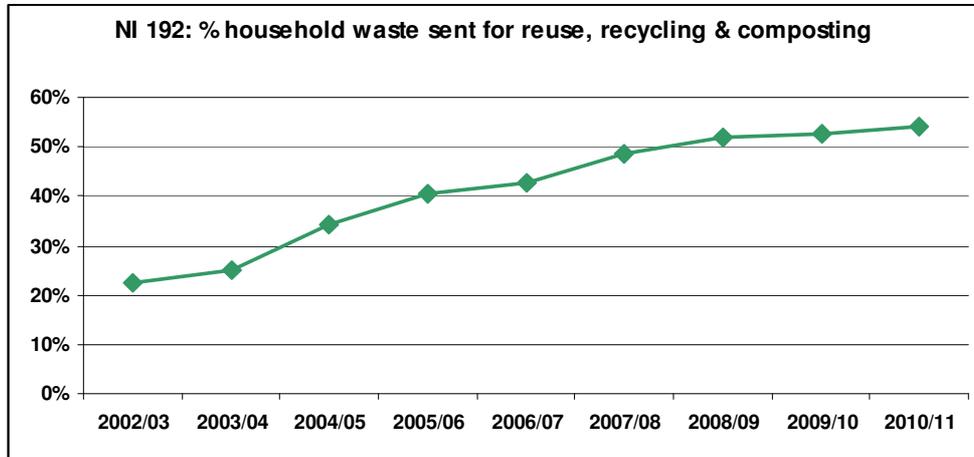
Since 2006, and in line with the growing importance of community engagement, two initiatives have been established that enable residents to get involved by volunteering. The Master Composter scheme saw volunteers recruited to promote the benefits of home composting in the county. Following the success of this scheme, a second programme has recently been implemented, where residents promote a range of waste prevention and reuse messages as a Waste Action Volunteer. Around 80 volunteers have been recruited across both schemes so far, providing valuable support to partner authorities.

As well as progress made to increase waste reuse and prevention, Leicestershire has significantly increased the amount of waste recycled and composted. In 2006/07, the Partnership recycled 42.68% of waste. In recent years, Leicestershire has consistently been among the highest performing areas for reuse, recycling and composting in the country, and was best performing nationally in 2008/09 and in 2009/10. In 2010/11, it achieved its highest ever performance of 54.02%.

The seven waste collection authorities within the Partnership have enhanced and consolidated the coverage and range of recyclable materials offered to residents via kerbside collection schemes and have increased the number of 'bring bank' recycling points. Likewise, the County Council as the disposal authority has expanded the recycling infrastructure at all of its fourteen Recycling and Household Waste Sites (RHWS) including a major redevelopment of five of them.

Figure 3 shows how the collective recycling and composting performance has increased since 2002/03 when the original Strategy was adopted.

Figure 3: Chart showing percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling & composting (formerly National Indicator 192) between 2002/03 and 2010/11



This high level of recycling performance has been achieved through a combination of investment in comprehensive kerbside collections, improving RHWS, offering a suite of promotional and communication activities and most crucially through the active participation and uptake of the services by the residents of Leicestershire.

4.2. How is the service delivered now?

Currently the seven collection authorities within the Partnership operate a range of kerbside collection schemes, as outlined in Table 1. Partner authorities have and will continue to improve service provision, so the information below should be considered a 'snap-shot' of current services.

Table 1: Summary of the predominant recycling and residual collection systems operated by each of the Leicestershire waste collection authorities

	Dry Recycling	Garden Waste	Food Waste	Residual Waste
Blaby DC	Fortnightly collection using a combination of boxes and 140 litre wheeled bin receptacles, accepting: glass, cans, foil, plastics, paper, cardboard, batteries aerosols and small WEEE. Textiles collected fortnightly by the charity Mind.	Collected via a wheeled bin on a fortnightly frequency. 'Opt in', paid service.	No separate collection.	Collected weekly using 140 litre wheeled bins. There is a charge for larger bins or additional 'side waste' sacks.
Charnwood BC	Alternate week collection using a wheeled bin accepting: glass jars and bottles, cans, foil, aerosols, paper, cardboard and a wide variety of plastics including film and tetrapaks. Textiles collected fortnightly by the charity Mind.	Green waste collected fortnightly on an 'opt in' basis using 240 litre wheeled bins available for an annual fee.	No separate collection.	Collected fortnightly via a 140ltr or 240 litre wheeled bin.

	Dry Recycling	Garden Waste	Food Waste	Residual Waste
Harborough DC	Weekly collection is provided using blue and green boxes, accepting glass, cans, paper, aerosols and foil. Cardboard is collected via the green waste wheeled bin. There is no kerbside collection for plastics or textiles.	Collected fortnightly. A 240 litre green wheeled bin is provided and cardboard may also be placed with the green waste.	District-wide weekly collection of food waste using a caddy.	Collected fortnightly via a 240 litre wheeled bin.
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	Fortnightly collection using a wheeled bin and inner caddy accepting glass, cans, paper, card and most plastics, drinks cartons, batteries and textiles.	Collected via a 240 litre brown bin on a fortnightly basis.	No separate collection.	Collected fortnightly via a 240 litre wheeled bin.
Melton BC	Collected weekly via a box collection, accepting glass, cans, foil, paper, card, plastic bottles and batteries. Textiles are also collected when bagged separately and placed in the grey box.	Collected fortnightly using a 240 litre brown wheeled bin.	No separate collection.	Collected fortnightly via a 240 litre wheeled bin.
North West Leicestershire DC	Collected fortnightly using a combination of boxes and bags accepting glass, cans, paper, card, foil, textiles and mixed plastics.	Collected fortnightly in a 140ltr or 240 litre wheeled bin.	No separate collection.	Collected fortnightly in a 240 litre wheeled bin.
Oadby & Wigston BC	Collected using a sack weekly, accepting cans, paper, card, textiles, tetrapak, foil and all rigid household plastics. Glass is collected fortnightly in a box.	Collected from all appropriate households using a reusable sack on a fortnightly basis.	No separate collection.	Collected via sack, and on a weekly frequency, with a maximum of three sacks per week.

In addition to kerbside collection services, the district and borough councils operate over 330 'bring bank' recycling points across the county.

Changes have also been made at the RHWS so they segregate more for recycling and composting than they do for disposal thereby achieving high levels of performance. The household waste recycling and composting performance achieved at the RHWS for 2010/11 was 74%.

The materials currently separated for recycling and composting at the fourteen RHWS include:

- Plastics
- Plastic bottles
- TVs and monitors
- Small electrical appliances
- Batteries
- Garden waste
- Mobile phones
- Large electrical appliances
- Cardboard beverage packaging
- Tapes and discs
- Scrap metal
- Car batteries
- Spectacles
- Wood and timber
- Food tins and drink cans
- Foil
- Plasterboard
- Cooking oil
- Cardboard
- Paper
- Mixed textiles and clothes
- Glass bottles and jars
- Used engine oil

Alongside increasing performance in recycling and composting, the County Council is responsible for the treatment and disposal of over 170,000 tonnes of residual waste (2010/11). In accordance with the waste hierarchy and this Strategy's objectives (see 'Vision and Objectives' section) the Partnership is moving away from landfill of untreated wastes, and the County Council has procured capacity at a Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility that came into operation in October 2010 to treat up to 50,000 tonnes of residual waste per year. The new facility processes residual waste collected by district and borough councils, which currently cannot be collected for recycling or composting.

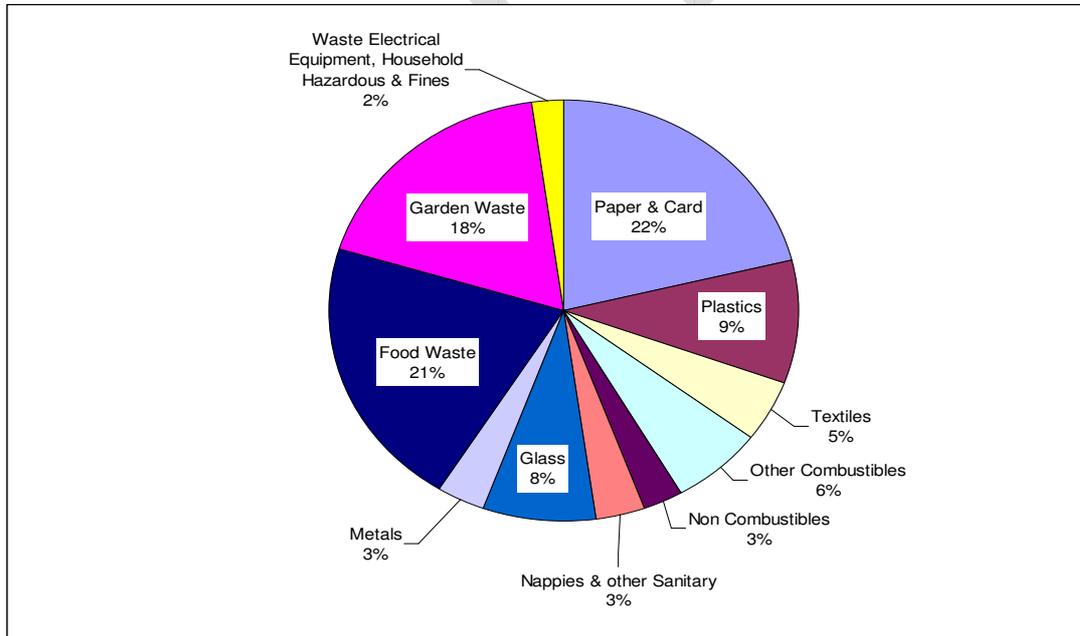
4.3. What is in your bin?

The varied composition of Local Authority Collected Waste is one of the challenges of managing the waste stream in a manner that is environmentally and economically acceptable. In supporting the process of identifying suitable collection and treatment options for Local Authority Collected Waste in Leicestershire, the Partnership conducted compositional analysis exercises in 2007/08 and 2009/10 to understand the nature and proportions of our waste streams.

The analysis in 2009/10 showed that the waste collected from households in Leicestershire from the kerbside, including residual (i.e. black bin / bag), recycling and garden waste; mainly consisted of paper and card (22%), food waste (21%) and garden waste (18%).

The chart below depicts the compositional breakdown of all materials collected at the kerbside.

Figure 4: Composition of Household Waste collected at the kerbside in Leicestershire (2009/10)



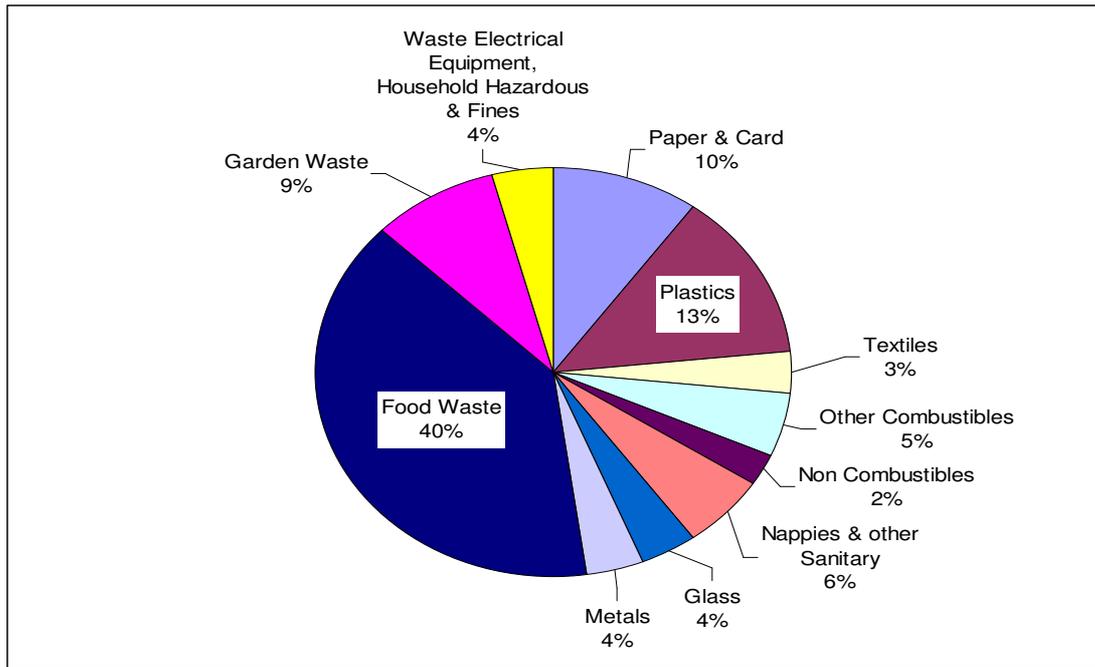
This shows the range of waste that is collected from the kerbside across Leicestershire.

A separate analysis of the residual waste only (everything left after recycling and composting i.e. 'black bin / bag' waste) found that approximately 18% by weight was potentially recyclable under

the current kerbside schemes. It also quite clearly showed that food waste at 40% made up a significant proportion of the residual waste.

The chart below shows the compositional breakdown of this black bin / bag waste.

Figure 5: Composition of Residual Household Waste collected at the kerbside in Leicestershire (2009/10)



The compositional analysis of waste provides valuable data to allow the Partnership to develop suitable waste services. In particular, the information shown in Figure 5 demonstrates that despite already high levels of recycling and composting performance, there remains a proportion of material that can still be recycled or composted.

5. Achieving sustainable waste management

There is an increasing amount of legislation focussed on the management of our wastes notably to encourage improved use of resources and to reduce the amount of waste and its harmfulness.

Some guiding principles and policies that may be considered as drivers for the sustainable management of waste are described in this section. The focus is on changes and updates to policy and legislation that have taken place since the 2006 version of the Strategy was adopted, although key pre-existing principles and legislation are referenced for completeness. These influences have guided the development of this updated Strategy.

5.1. Waste Strategy for England 2007

Waste Strategy for England 2007 (also known as WS2007) sets out national targets for recycling of household waste including a target of 40% recycling by 2010, 45% by 2015 and 50% by 2020. The Partnership already exceeds the national recycling target of 50% set for 2020.

WS2007 also includes targets for *recovery*, a term meaning recycling / composting and also including energy recovery from wastes, and these targets are set at a national level for 53% by 2010, 67% by 2015 and 75% by 2020.

5.2. Waste Framework Directive

The Waste Framework Directive (WFD) is the primary European legislation for the management of waste. The WFD was revised in 2008 and has been implemented in England through the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011. The key changes that impact on the management of Local Authority Collected Waste include:

- The introduction of an updated waste hierarchy (see Figure 2), which acts as a 'priority order' in waste management legislation and policy. This means that all decisions about waste management, policy and infrastructure must take the waste hierarchy into account;
- The requirement to set up 'separate collections' of waste for at least paper, metal, plastic, and glass by 2015;
- A target to recycle 50% of waste from households by 2020;
- A target to recover 70% of construction and demolition waste by 2020.

There remain some uncertainties as regards the interpretation of recycling under the revised Waste Framework Directive. This is notably the case with reference to organics composting and digestion, and also in terms of the Defra interpretation of 'separate collection' for recycling. The figures and projections within this Strategy update are based on the current status quo in the absence of a clear position in this regard.

5.3. Review of Waste Policy in England 2011

The Review of Waste Policy in England 2011 looked at all aspects of waste policy and waste management in England with the aim of ensuring the right steps were being taken to move towards a 'zero waste economy'. The review restates the Government's commitment to ensure that the UK meets its EU obligations as a minimum. The key outcomes of the review are:

- The intention to remove the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme at the end of the 2012/13 scheme year, leaving landfill tax as the key driver for diverting waste from landfill;
- A commitment to meet the EU revised Waste Framework Directive target to recycle 50% of waste from households by 2020;
- Encouragement for local authorities to make it easier for small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) to recycle, including the introduction of a new Recycling and Waste Services Commitment for businesses;
- A commitment to consult on introducing restrictions on the landfilling of wood waste (with further consultations on textiles and biodegradable waste planned for the future);
- A further consultation with local authorities on the future of Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategies (JMWMS), including the possible removal of the statutory duty to produce JMWMS;
- Encouragement for councils to provide weekly collections of 'smelly' waste;
- Support for rewarding or recognising householders for 'doing the right thing' in relation to waste reduction and recycling;
- Support for anaerobic digestion as a means of dealing with food waste, including the launch of an Anaerobic Digestion Strategy and Action Plan;
- The promotion of a carbon metric reporting tool to help councils report the environmental impacts of waste management in carbon terms.

5.4. Managing carbon

A fundamental challenge facing the world is the dangerous threat of climate change. Climate change occurs because of changes in the amounts of greenhouse gases⁴ (carbon dioxide, methane, and others) in the atmosphere. The increase of greenhouse gases has been observed through sampling and testing and it is widely accepted that this has contributed to a 0.6°C⁵ rise in temperature over the last century. The ten warmest years of the last century were recorded in its last fifteen years.

Waste management has a role to play in mitigating the emissions of carbon (or greenhouse gases) through application of the waste hierarchy. Landfilling of wastes is a major contributor to methane emissions in the atmosphere, and the most significant negative impact from waste management activity. The waste sector is estimated to account for approximately 3%⁶ all of direct UK emissions. Conversely, prevention, reuse, recycling and energy recovery can all have a role in reducing carbon emissions. This can be a difficult area to quantify, but tools are available to assess impacts in this area, known as Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) tools. The Review of Waste Policy in England 2011 aims to target waste streams with high carbon impacts, promote resource efficient product design, promote use of life cycle thinking and promote measurement and reporting of waste management in carbon terms including the development of a carbon metric tool.

5.5. The Landfill Directive

Part of the Government and EU response to managing the contribution of waste management to climate change was to introduce the Directive on the Landfilling of Waste (the 'Landfill Directive') as implemented into UK legislation. This sets targets for reducing the amount of biodegradable

⁴ Greenhouse gases are usually measured in Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) equivalents, and hence we often talk about managing 'carbon', although the actual aspect being discussed may be methane (CH₄) or some other greenhouse gas.

⁵ Climate Change & Waste Management: The link, Defra 2007

⁶ "Direct emissions from the waste management greenhouse gas inventory sector in the UK accounted for 3.2% of the UK's total estimated emissions of greenhouse gases in 2009", Defra 2011

municipal waste (BMW) going into landfill as this is responsible for the damaging methane emissions that form the greatest climate change impact from waste operations.

The Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) introduced fixed allowances for waste disposal authorities (e.g. Leicestershire County Council) for landfilling of biodegradable municipal waste. For each tonne of BMW landfilled without an allowance, the Government could levy a fine of £150. The Government announced as part of the Review of Waste Policy in England 2011 that it intends to remove LATS at the end of the 2012/13 scheme year. The County Council has consistently met its target for diverting the required tonnage of BMW from landfill and is forecast to meet its obligations up to and including 2012/13.

The removal of LATS leaves landfill tax as the key driver for diverting waste from landfill. Landfill tax is currently (2011/12) £56 per tonne, and will increase by £8 per tonne each year reaching £80 per tonne by 2014/15. The level of landfill tax increase per year beyond 2014/15 has not been confirmed.

5.6. Improving efficiency in service delivery

Over the last five years national Government has been driving a programme of improving efficiency in the delivery of all local services, seeking year on year improvements and establishing support programmes to promote best practice in service delivery. This is a particularly difficult area for waste management services due to the increasing demands and targets on the service meaning higher performance is also required, notably in areas such as recycling.

Key mechanisms to improve the efficiency of local services include partnering with other sectors, benefiting from economies of scale, improving logistics and planning and using procurement wisely to benefit from the market. The government's Localism Bill aims to deliver greater powers for local communities to plan and ensure the delivery of services appropriate to their area.

5.7. Regional self sufficiency & proximity principle

The principle of regional self sufficiency is to manage the waste arising in a 'region' within the same 'region', thereby reducing travel impacts and establishing the link between waste producers and the infrastructure required to manage that waste. This is linked to the proximity principle, which states that waste should be managed close to its source of origin. Whilst the Strategy does not define the location of sites for waste management infrastructure these factors are implicit in the options selected and approach taken.

5.8. Waste Strategy & the Planning Process

The Waste Core Strategy and Development Control Policies document was adopted in October 2009 and covers the County of Leicestershire and the City of Leicester areas. This is the key planning document for dealing with new waste development for all waste streams, including Municipal, Construction & Demolition and Commercial & Industrial wastes. It sets out the capacity of new waste facilities required to treat these wastes and broadly indicates where these facilities should be located. The total amount of capacity required is based on the principle that sufficient capacity will be provided to manage the equivalent of waste arising in the plan area, whilst recognising that there will be movement of waste to facilities both into and out of the plan area.

6. Vision & Objectives of the Municipal Waste Management Strategy

Leicestershire is pursuing a clear vision for sustainable waste management and resource use. Through the delivery of high quality, efficient services, waste should first be prevented from arising, be reused, recycled or composted. Any residual waste that has not been reused, recycled or composted should be treated before disposal so that further value can be recovered and so that the impact of final disposal is minimised.

Through the collaborative efforts of the Partnership, and in partnership with others, a majority of Leicestershire's waste will continue to be recycled, waste production will be in decline and local communities will be taking responsibility for the waste they produce.

This Strategy has 12 objectives which support this vision, as set out below:

- ❖ **Objective 1:** Manage materials in accordance with the Waste Management Hierarchy – in order of preference, prevention, preparing for reuse, recycling, other recovery, disposal - except where costs are prohibitive, or where the environmental consequences can be demonstrated to be negative;
- ❖ **Objective 2:** Manage resources and waste in a way that meets the needs of Leicestershire's residents now without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs;
- ❖ **Objective 3:** Deliver quality services which offer value for money overall, in the long term as well as the short term;
- ❖ **Objective 4:** Ensure that services are flexible enough to allow new technological developments and new legal requirements to be accommodated, and to ensure that the desire to move waste up the Waste Management Hierarchy is not compromised;
- ❖ **Objective 5:** Work together to research and develop coordinated services and infrastructure for waste collection, treatment, transfer and disposal;
- ❖ **Objective 6:** Aim to reduce and manage residual waste within the County where this is consistent with the proximity principle and to manage all other waste at the nearest appropriate facility by the most appropriate method or technology;
- ❖ **Objective 7:** Consider approaches to managing waste from commercial and industrial sources where this contributes to the overall environmental, social and economic wellbeing of Leicestershire residents;
- ❖ **Objective 8:** Lobby and work with others, in particular on the issue of waste prevention, including commercial, statutory, non-governmental, academic and community based or not-for-profit organisations in pursuit of the Partnership's vision of sustainable waste and resource management;
- ❖ **Objective 9:** Work closely with the community & the community sector to educate residents in environmental matters (including climate change, energy and resource management) and encourage engagement with waste prevention, reuse and recycling initiatives;

- ❖ **Objective 10:** Promote the economic and employment opportunities of sustainable waste management where this is consistent with the principles of sustainable development and best value. Consider local / regional supply chain and markets for recycle and other secondary raw materials;
- ❖ **Objective 11:** As local authorities, set an example by preventing, reusing, recycling and composting our own waste and use our buying power to positively encourage sustainable resource use; and
- ❖ **Objective 12:** Continually seek to reduce carbon emissions, including the potential for renewable or low carbon energy generation to improve the impact of the service on climate change.

The following sections of this document explore each level of the waste hierarchy (Figure 2) in turn and explain the proposed actions and targets for delivering service improvements in line with the Strategy Vision and objectives.

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7. Waste Prevention & Preparing for Reuse

Since the 2006 Strategy was adopted, the Partnership has implemented a comprehensive suite of high profile campaigns and initiatives focussed on waste prevention and reuse through the Partnership's Waste Prevention and Reuse Plan. Initiatives have included:

- Reuse campaign;
- Love Food, Hate Waste campaign;
- Subsidised compost bins and food waste digesters (e.g. Green Cones);
- Recruitment of Master Composters and Waste Action Volunteers.

Going forwards, the Partnership has decided that waste prevention and reuse activities should continue to focus in the first instance on reducing the amount of biodegradable waste entering the household waste stream and on increasing the amount of reuse within Leicestershire. This will be delivered by continuing to promote the Love Food Hate Waste campaign, actively promoting home composting and the use of food waste digesters, continuing to work with volunteers, and maintaining Leicestershire's Reuse Campaign and associated promotion of reuse at the RHWS and of bulky collections.

7.1. Proposed actions on waste prevention and reuse

The following actions are planned by the Partnership to reduce waste arisings in Leicestershire and to encourage reuse activity:

1. Food Waste Prevention Campaign

The Partnership will continue to promote the Love Food Hate Waste campaign in association with WRAP (Waste & Resources Action Programme) and its national campaign. This campaign is designed to promote purchasing practices and cooking behaviours that will reduce the amount of food waste arising for disposal. Based on previous experience, a successful campaign should prevent around 2,000 tonnes per year of food waste arising over the period of the Strategy. This will also save on the wider environmental impacts of food production, processing and transportation.

2. Home Composting and Digestion Campaigns

The Partnership will promote take up of home compost bins to residents and primary schools in the county. For every additional household that uses a home compost bin, it is estimated that 1.35 tonnes of garden and kitchen waste, will be diverted from the waste stream over the life of the Strategy. The use of food waste digesters will also be promoted. The Partnership will continue to support the Master Composter scheme which trains local volunteers to help spread the composting message across the county and to provide information and encouragement to residents to successfully use their compost bin and/or food waste digester.

3. Waste Action Volunteers

In line with Objective 9, to encourage the community to engage with waste prevention and reuse initiatives, the Waste Action Volunteer scheme will continue. The scheme will train local volunteers on a range of waste prevention, reuse, recycling and wider environmental topics. The scheme will increase the level of engagement with residents in our campaigns and the take up of the positive waste behaviours they are promoting.

4. Schools Waste Prevention and Reuse

The Partnership will work with local schools, colleges and universities to emphasise the importance of waste prevention and reuse. It will support the Sustainable Schools Framework and Eco Schools, through the Waste Certificate, which has been developed as part of a wider behavioural and sustainable development education approach. Other initiatives such as a schools composting activity will also be promoted.

5. In-house Waste Prevention and Reuse

The Partnership will continue to lead by example when it comes to waste prevention and reuse by putting in place the necessary environmental policies, and implementing a range of in-house waste prevention and reuse initiatives to reduce the amount of waste it produces and to increase the levels of reuse and recycling of its waste. This will be delivered through, for example, sustainable procurement and environmentally friendly office practices and the use of Freeuse LA, a local authority reuse website. The Partnership has developed the Waste Reduction Standard to provide a framework by which this action can be delivered.

6. Reuse Campaign

The Partnership will continue to promote a Reuse Campaign. The campaign will promote and increase awareness of the range of activities residents can do to reuse items rather than throwing them away, such as donating furniture to Furniture Reuse Organisations and charities, using the www.Freeuseit.org website and other reuse websites or selling items at a car boot sale. Extracting items from the waste stream for the purpose of reuse should also contribute to other priorities of the partner authorities such as supporting low-income households.

7. Support for Reuse / Refurbishment – via RHWS and Bulky Waste Collections

The Partnership will continue to explore ways of increasing reuse at the RHWS and from the district and borough council bulky collection services. The Partnership will work with its contractors to build on the success of the reuse auctions that take reusable items from most of the RHWS in the county. The reuse auctions currently divert an average of 7 tonnes of waste from landfill each month. The Partnership will seek to work with local Furniture Reuse Organisations, charities and other organisations to reuse furniture, white goods and other items collected by the district and borough councils, where this is the most appropriate economic and environmental option.

8. Real Nappies Campaign

Promotion of the use of real (cloth or reusable) nappies in preference to disposable nappies will continue, in order to reduce waste arisings from this source. Typically, around 2 - 3% of household waste comprises of disposable nappies. In the case of Leicestershire, this is equivalent to around 6,000 tonnes of waste or 40 million disposable nappies each year.

9. Junk Mail Prevention Campaign

The No Junk Mail campaign will continue to be delivered. It makes residents more aware of the steps they can take to reduce the amount of junk mail that they receive. Schemes such as the Mail Preference Service (MPS) and the Royal Mail opt out scheme will be promoted as well as other practical steps.

10. Lobby Government and Business on Waste Prevention & Reuse

The Partnership will engage with and lobby Government and businesses on waste prevention and reuse issues as appropriate. It will also take a lead role in supporting national / regional campaigns at a local level. The Partnership will seek to make businesses more aware of waste prevention, reuse and associated issues. In addition, efforts will be made to reduce the amount of commercial waste entering the household waste stream, through promotional activities around RHWS, fly-tipping, household kerbside bins and street litter bins.

7.2. Measuring and monitoring waste prevention and reuse

Waste prevention and reuse activities are difficult to measure with accuracy, due to the variety of factors influencing waste arisings and residents' behaviour. These factors also limit the manner in which the Partnership can influence these overall arisings and behaviour. The Partnership recognises the challenge, but also is aware of the importance of reducing the amount of waste in order to improve environmental performance.

Mechanisms will be put in place to record and measure the waste prevention and reuse performance of activities that fall within the control of the Partnership (e.g. sale of home composting units, Freeuse and bulky collections). This performance will be assessed against the wider local and national recycling and composting performance, and levels of waste arisings, to give an indication of the likely waste prevention and reuse performance for Leicestershire.

In the course of delivering the Strategy and associated Action Plan, the Partnership will assess the degree of success of the waste prevention and reuse initiatives implemented. To gauge the success of these initiatives, the Partnership will measure and monitor the following indicator:

- Kilograms of household waste per household

The Partnership aims to achieve a continuous improvement (i.e. a year on year decrease) against this indicator. If monitoring shows that there is insufficient progress in this area, the Partnership will consider undertaking additional actions and corrective measures.

8. Recycling & Composting

As described in Section 4, since this Strategy was last reviewed, the Leicestershire Waste Partnership has significantly improved its household waste recycling and composting performance from 42.68% in 2006/07 to 54.02% in 2010/11.

This high level of recycling performance has been achieved through a combination of investment in comprehensive kerbside collections, improving RHWS, offering a suite of promotional and communication activities and most crucially through the active participation and uptake of the services by the residents of Leicestershire.

The national target for the recycling and composting of household waste is 50% by 2020. As the Partnership is already achieving rates in excess of the national target for household waste, an ambitious local target of 58% recycling and composting of Local Authority Collected Waste (previously referred to as Municipal Waste) by 2017 has been set (see Section 8.2).

A range of actions will be required to deliver the Partnership's composting and recycling target. These are outlined in the next section.

8.1. Proposed actions on recycling and composting

The following actions are planned by the Leicestershire Waste Partnership to increase recycling and composting:

1. Addition of further recyclables to kerbside recycling systems

The Partnership will explore the incorporation of additional materials into kerbside collections (where these are not already collected) including aerosols, foil, plastic film, other plastics, tetrapaks, batteries, textiles, and small waste electronic and electrical equipment. Incorporating these materials into kerbside recycling systems will have a beneficial carbon impact.

2. Improve 'static' recycling at Recycling and Household Waste Sites, bring sites and 'on-street' recycling bins

Recycling and composting performance at the fourteen RHWS is already high (73.81% in 2010/11). Leicestershire County Council will seek to continually improve performance at the RHWS by separating more materials for recycling.

The Partnership will also explore the development of additional 'on-street' recycling bins and bring sites at suitable locations throughout the county. This is in line with recommendations in the national Review of Waste Policy 2011. Extra materials (e.g. aerosols, foil and mixed plastics) may also be added to pre-existing bring sites where practicable and economic to do so.

3. Consider introduction of chargeable green waste collections

At present, two Leicestershire district and borough councils (Blaby District Council and Charnwood Borough Council) offer a chargeable kerbside green waste collection. The remaining five district and borough councils offer a free service. Due to the current economic climate and the stringent public sector funding cuts, the Partnership will consider introducing chargeable green waste collections across parts of the County. This option may suppress recycling rates, although as outlined in the Waste Prevention and Reuse section, the Partnership will continue to promote the take up of home composting bins as an alternative to green waste collections and to move waste up the hierarchy.

4. Improve levels of trade waste recycling

Five of the seven district and borough councils in the Partnership currently offer limited trade waste recycling services. The proposed abolition of LATS at the end of the 2012/13 scheme year will remove a barrier to increasing trade waste collections and will enable local authorities to offer improved waste and recycling services to businesses.

The Partnership will investigate the feasibility of expanding and improving trade waste services offered to local SMEs (see Section 10.1) in line with national Review of Waste Policy 2011, which supports improving the collection of waste from smaller businesses.

5. Expand recycling of street sweepings

Street sweepings are made up of a number of materials, including a proportion of biodegradable waste (e.g. leaves) that have the potential to be composted. A number of the Leicestershire district and borough councils currently compost a proportion of their street sweepings. The Partnership will explore opportunities to expand the recycling and composting of street sweeping material.

6. Improve the performance of existing kerbside recycling systems

Getting the most out of the current kerbside recycling systems is a cost effective option for improving recycling performance. The Partnership will look at a range of measures to improve the performance of current recycling schemes, including increasing communications activity or providing smaller residual waste containers (i.e. black bags / bins), thereby encouraging the use of recycling services.

7. Lobby Government on recycling issues

The Partnership will engage with and lobby Government and businesses on recycling and composting issues as appropriate. It will also take a lead role in supporting national / regional campaigns at a local level.

8. Consider future opportunities for food waste recycling

A significant proportion of the residual (black bag / bin) waste disposed of in Leicestershire is food waste. Since the 2006 review of the Strategy, food waste collection trials have been carried out in two district and borough council areas, leading to district-wide collections being introduced in the Harborough area. The economic climate and high costs associated with food waste recycling are currently inhibiting the expansion of food waste collections, however, the Partnership will continue to monitor opportunities for expanding food waste collections in the future.

8.2. Recycling and composting target

In line with the targets set in the 2006 Strategy, the Partnership will aim to put in place appropriate services and infrastructure to achieve recycling and composting rates of:-

- 58% of Local Authority Collected Waste by 2017

Delivery of the targeted level of recycling performance will exceed national targets by a considerable margin and maintain the position of Leicestershire as a leading light in recycling and sustainable waste management in the UK.

8.3. Measuring and monitoring recycling and composting

The Partnership report their recycling and composting performance on a quarterly basis through the national WasteDataFlow system. Although the Government stopped reporting national Indicator data at the end of 2010/11, the Partnership will continue to monitor performance against the former National Indicator 192 (percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting) using data submitted to the WasteDataFlow system.

The Partnership will also report the level of Local Authority Collected Waste recycled and composted, on an annual basis.

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9. Residual Waste Treatment & Disposal

Since the 2006 version of the Strategy was adopted, the amount of residual waste (i.e. black bin / bag waste) arising in Leicestershire has decreased significantly from 228,254 tonnes per annum in 2006/07 to 171,637 tonnes per annum in 2010/11. This decrease is linked to a number of factors, including:

- An increase in household recycling, composting and reuse from 42.68% in 2006/07 to 54.02% in 2010/11;
- An overall decrease in waste arisings due to the down-turn in the economy;
- The implementation of the Partnership Waste Prevention and Reuse Plan from 2007 onwards.

There has also been a decrease of approximately 20% in the proportion of residual waste that is sent to landfill for disposal between 2006/07 and 2010/11. Although this represents significant progress, continuing to send waste to landfill is unsustainable from an environmental perspective and is increasingly economically unattractive due to increases in landfill tax.

9.1. Residual waste treatment and disposal capacity

When the 2006 version of the Strategy was adopted, it was anticipated that the Partnership would require new biodegradable residual waste treatment capacity of 45-50,000 tonnes per annum by 2011/12 to meet targets under LATS (equivalent to residual waste treatment facilities with a capacity of at least 75,000 tonnes, as the biodegradable element of residual waste constitutes between 60% and 70% of the total).

In response to this requirement the County Council progressed an interim waste treatment procurement process. A medium term contract has been secured until 2015 (with an option to extend) with provision to utilise up to 50,000 tonnes per annum of Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) capacity. The MBT facility is located at the Cotesbach landfill site within the county, and is designed to reduce the biodegradability of residual waste and extract recyclable materials from the residual waste stream. In addition, the County Council has provisional arrangements in place to increase the tonnage to Energy from Waste facilities over the period covered by this Strategy.

In 2006 it was anticipated that 70-75,000 tonnes per annum of biodegradable residual waste treatment capacity (equivalent to residual waste treatment facilities with a capacity of 110,000 tonnes) would be required by 2015/16 to meet targets under LATS. To meet this need, Leicestershire County Council progressed a long-term waste treatment procurement project (which was supported by Private Finance Initiative (PFI) credits).

The PFI credits for the long-term waste treatment procurement project were withdrawn in October 2010 as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review. The withdrawal of the PFI credits by Defra had a significant adverse financial impact on the project and although various options to reduce the cost of the project were considered, these options were unable to fully compensate for the loss of the PFI credits. Therefore the project was considered no longer viable and Leicestershire County Council terminated the long-term waste treatment procurement project in July 2011.

9.2. Reacting to change

The Government announced as part of the Review of Waste Policy in England 2011 that it intends to remove LATS at the end of the 2012/13 scheme year. The County Council is currently in a position to meet its obligations under LATS for diverting the required tonnage of BMW from landfill up to and including 2012/13. The removal of LATS thereafter would leave landfill tax as the key financial driver for diverting waste from landfill.

There is sufficient flexibility within the County Council's current contracts to meet the short to medium term requirements for residual waste treatment and disposal, utilising a combination of Mechanical Biological Treatment, Energy from Waste and landfill capacity.

Due to a combination of increased recycling performance and lower waste arisings than envisaged in the 2006 projections, there is no necessity to implement new residual waste procurement process(es) at the current time. However, there is uncertainty around the long term levels of growth in waste arisings. It is expected that the current decline in waste arisings is unlikely to continue in the long term and that there could be a return to waste growth in the future linked to economic recovery.

The County Council will develop plans to ensure that waste can be effectively managed in the future. These plans will take account of various waste growth scenarios. Should there be a return to growth in waste arisings, additional treatment capacity may be required. Any procurement to deliver this capacity will be undertaken in consideration of the waste hierarchy and other objectives within the Strategy.

9.3. Proposed actions on residual waste treatment and disposal

1. Develop a Residual Waste Disposal, Treatment and Transfer Plan

Leicestershire County Council will develop a Residual Waste Disposal, Treatment and Transfer Plan to assess future requirements for treatment capacity for the county's residual waste for the period up to 2020. This plan will be consistent with the Strategy objective of managing materials in accordance with the waste management hierarchy, except where costs are prohibitive, or where the environmental consequences can be demonstrated to be negative.

A number of factors will be considered in developing the Plan, including:

- Future growth in waste arisings;
- Future recycling and composting performance;
- Increases in the cost of landfill linked to increases in landfill tax;
- The future availability (and cost) of waste treatment capacity at existing or new facilities;
- The potential for landfill bans for various materials (including wood, textiles and biodegradable waste).

9.4. Residual waste treatment and disposal targets

In the 2006 Strategy, targets were set for the amount of residual municipal waste generated per person. The following targets were included:

- 325kg in 2010;
- 310kg in 2015; and
- 295kg in 2020

The 2010/11 performance against this measure was 266kg per person, exceeding the target for 2020. This level of performance is a result of factors outlined above.

9.5. Measuring and monitoring residual waste treatment and disposal

The Partnership will continue to monitor the targets for residual municipal waste generated per person over the life of the Strategy.

Given changes in Government policy that encourage local authorities to improve waste and recycling service provision for SMEs (as outlined in Section 10), it is possible that the amount of waste managed by the Partnership will increase following the planned removal of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) in 2013.

Therefore the Partnership will focus on monitoring performance against the additional indicator (kilograms of household waste generated per household), as outlined in Section 7.

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10. Wider Wastes

The consideration of wider wastes, for example wastes from commercial or industrial sources, in parallel with municipal waste management, can yield economic and environmental benefits. For example, waste treatment and recycling facilities often exhibit economies of scale (i.e. the larger the capacity of the plant, the lower the cost per tonne of waste going through it), and environmental gains can also be made through blending different waste streams to optimise plant performance.

Government policy is also promoting closer synergies with the combined management of different waste streams, and whilst it is only a duty of the local authority to manage municipal waste, there are a number of approaches that can be taken to support the management of wider wastes. The Partnership will explore approaches such as:-

- Education on waste prevention, preparing for reuse and recycling of wider wastes
- Consideration of wider wastes in procurement / feasibility studies
- Develop trade waste services (see below)

10.1. Trade waste

Where commercial waste is collected by or on behalf of a local authority, this is usually referred to as 'trade waste' and is an element of Local Authority Collected Waste (see Section 3.1). At present a variety of trade waste services are offered by the different collection authorities in the Partnership.

This Strategy seeks to increase the amount of trade waste collected for recycling. New trade waste collections offered to businesses are currently limited to recycling collections as a result of LATS thereby limiting the customer base. The planned removal of LATS in 2012/13 could enable the collection authorities of the Partnership to offer a complete collection service to SMEs. This would open up a greater market, and thereby attract SMEs due to the greater convenience and competition of collection services on offer, and will enable the authorities to extract value and environmental benefit from waste that may have otherwise been previously landfilled.

Expanding trade waste collection services represents a policy direction change from the 2006 Strategy, largely as a result of the planned removal of the LATS regime (which dis-incentivised local authority trade waste collections) and recent encouragement by Government⁷. The benefits from recycling and sustainable management of trade wastes, combined with the rising costs of disposal (through the landfill tax) could result in an attractive solution to SMEs for managing their wastes.

⁷ Government Review of Waste Policy in England, Defra 2011

11. Working in Partnership

11.1. Working together

The Partnership has a track record of mutual support and co-operation, and partner authorities will continue to work together to provide residents with high-quality, efficient services. This updated Strategy will provide a foundation for continued joint working.

To deliver this Strategy, it is recognised that effective engagement with stakeholders is essential. The Partnership developed a Communications Framework in May 2008 to set out how the Partnership will communicate its aims and key messages to internal and external stakeholders. Partner authorities have and will continue to work together on communications campaigns in order to deliver strong, coherent messages to the public. This will include further development of the Partnership brand, including the www.lesswaste.org.uk website.

The role of education will also play an important role in ensuring successful delivery of Strategy objectives by helping to ensure that residents are aware of the services available to them, and by changing behaviour to promote increased recycling. This will take place as part of communications campaigns, but also through direct engagement with schools and community groups.

It is also recognised that partner authorities have a stronger voice when working together, and as such, the Partnership will continue to lobby Government through submission of joint responses to consultations.

11.2. External partnerships

Partnership working between different groups and sectors is becoming increasingly important. The Partnership will continue to explore opportunities to work with others, including 'third party' and community groups, wherever practical, efficient and within the public interest. There are already several successful examples of this, such as the Master Composters scheme (Section 7), which promotes home composting, and partnerships with Furniture Reuse Organisations to reuse furniture gathered through kerbside bulky waste collections (Section 7). We will also continue to build links with other partnerships and local authorities, in order that information and examples of best practice can be shared, and joint working opportunities can be explored.

11.3. Leading by example

It is important that partner authorities be positioned to lead others by example, with improving environmental office practices. A commitment has been made by partner authorities to the Waste Reduction Standard, which establishes a framework for improved environmental policies and practices, including greater levels of recycling and sustainable procurement (see Section 7.1).

11.4. Monitoring

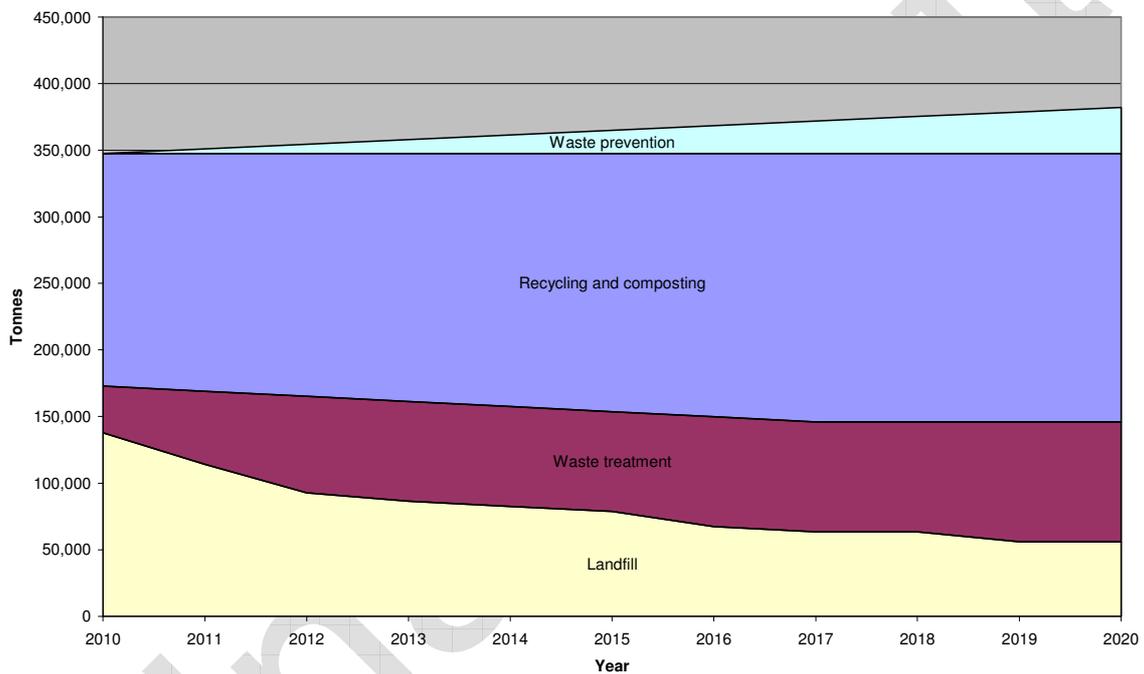
The Partnership will continue to work together and will meet regularly at both a Member and officer level to monitor progress. It will also provide an update on joint working as part of regular reporting against the Strategy Action Plan.

12. Where will the Strategy take us?

The objectives and actions in this Strategy are designed to elevate the management of waste up the tiers of the waste hierarchy. This will result in more waste being prevented, prepared for reuse, recycled, composted and treated; and less waste sent to landfill.

This is demonstrated by the waste flow model below (Figure 7), which shows how the actions proposed may impact upon the amount of waste being managed over the lifetime of the Strategy.

Figure 7: Leicestershire Indicative Waste Flow Model 2010-2020⁸



It shows that Leicestershire already recycles and composts over half of all household waste and will increase this further. Over time, a significant increase in the amount of waste sent for treatment will reduce the amount of waste that is sent to landfill, in line with the waste hierarchy.

⁸ It is assumed that total waste generation will remain constant over the reporting period. An underlying assumption is that there will be an increase of 2740 (c.1%) households per annum during the period, meaning that the waste generated per household is declining (illustrated by the waste prevention segment).

13. Municipal Waste Management Strategy Action Plan

This updated Strategy presents a range of high-level actions covering the short, medium and long term, which will be implemented over the period up to 2020. This Strategy update will be supported by a detailed Action Plan, setting out how the Partnership will achieve its strategic objectives. The Action Plan is intended to be a living document and will be monitored and updated on an on-going basis. Where the Action Plan monitoring identifies that insufficient progress is being made in a particular area, then additional actions / corrective measures may be introduced to rectify any shortfall.

The Action Plan will contain the following:

- Time-bound actions and targets to achieving the strategic objectives
- Details of who will be responsible for each action
- Details of the resources to be allocated to each action
- Details of the monitoring and revision procedures

Outlined below are the key strategic actions over the short, medium and long term, that will inform the development of the accompanying Action Plan:

13.1. Short term up to 2013

- Implement a range of waste prevention and reuse campaigns
- Implement measures to improve reuse and refurbishment via RHWS and bulky collections
- Implement measures to improve waste prevention and reuse within partner authorities
- Lobby both Government and businesses to reduce the amount of waste generated and increase recycling and composting
- Consider introduction of green waste charging
- Commence implementation of a range of measures to improve recycling performance
- Introduction of communications campaign to improve performance of current recycling schemes
- Consider opportunities for greater joint working / more efficient delivery of services (including greater harmonisation of collection services)
- Commence work programme on wider wastes management
- Leicestershire County Council to develop a Residual Waste Disposal, Treatment and Transfer Plan
- Consider, and implement where appropriate, actions from the Residual Waste Disposal, Treatment and Transfer Plan
- Consider the introduction of a carbon metric for the measurement and reporting of the carbon impact of waste management (pending Government guidance)

13.2. Medium term 2013 to 2016

- Implement a range of waste prevention and reuse campaigns
- Implement measures to improve reuse and refurbishment via RHWS and bulky collections
- Implement measures to improve waste prevention and reuse within partner authorities

- Lobby both Government and businesses to reduce the amount of waste generated and increase recycling and composting
- Review potential for food waste collection and treatment
- Consider introduction of green waste charging as appropriate
- Continue implementation of a range of measures to improve recycling performance
- Continuation of communications campaign to improve performance of current recycling schemes
- Consider, and implement where appropriate, actions from the Residual Waste Disposal, Treatment and Transfer Plan

13.3. Long term 2016 to 2020

- Implement a range of waste prevention and reuse campaigns
- Implement measures to improve reuse and refurbishment via RHWS and bulky collections
- Implement measures to improve waste prevention and reuse within partner authorities
- Lobby both Government and businesses to reduce the amount of waste generated and increase recycling and composting
- Continue implementation of a range of measures to improve recycling performance
- Continuation of communications campaign to improve performance of current recycling schemes
- Review introduction of green waste charging
- Review the Residual Waste Disposal, Treatment and Transfer Plan

14. Monitoring & Reviewing of the Strategy

The Municipal Waste Management Strategy will be updated every 5 years or where a substantial change in legislation, policy or other circumstance warrants, an update outside of that timescale will take place.

The 2006 Strategy had a requirement to formally include the residents of Leicestershire and stakeholders in any revision to this Strategy. This version of the Strategy is an update rather than a revision and therefore remains consistent with the original aims and objectives of the 2006 Strategy. The Partnership authorities will follow the principle of involving communities 'up front', in advance of any formal revision being made to this Strategy.

Interim and long-term targets form a major component of the Strategy and these will be monitored and reported on an annual basis to determine overall performance against key Strategy areas. In addition, the actions in the Action Plan will have their own individual targets which will be monitored on an annual basis to ensure they are being achieved.

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15. Glossary of Terms & Abbreviations

Alternate Weekly Collection (AWC)	Alternate weekly collection typically involves the collection of household residual wastes every other week, whilst during the intervening week's recyclables and/or green wastes are collected.
Biodegradable Waste	This is waste that is able to decompose through the action of bacteria or other microbes, including materials such as paper, food waste and garden waste.
Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW)	The fraction of municipal waste that is capable of undergoing anaerobic or aerobic decomposition and will degrade within a landfill, giving rise to landfill gas emissions, primarily methane. It includes, amongst other materials, food waste, green waste, paper and cardboard.
Bring Site / Bank	A bring site or bring bank is a localised collection point for recyclables such as glass, paper, cans, etc.
Bulky Waste	Waste is considered 'bulky' if weighs more than 25kg or any item that does not fit into the householder's bin; or if no container is provided, a cylindrical receptacle of 750mm in diameter and 1m high.
Carbon Dioxide Equivalents	An indicator used by WRATE as a measure of what mass of greenhouse gases are estimated to contribute to global warming, a relative scale that compares emissions to carbon dioxide equivalent units.
Commercial Waste	Commercial waste arises from premises used for trade, business, sport, recreation or entertainment, but excluding municipal and industrial waste.
Composting	The degradation of organic wastes in the presence of oxygen to produce a fertiliser or soil conditioner. This can either be an enclosed process (in-vessel) or operated as an open windrow process.
Construction & Demolition Waste	Is waste that consists of such materials as soil, concrete, and bricks. It is not classified as either household or garden waste.
Dry Recyclables	Materials such as paper, glass, textiles and cans that can be collected through kerbside schemes or bring banks.
Eco Schools	Eco-Schools is an international program of environmental and sustainable developmental education for schools.
Energy Recovery	The process of extracting energy from waste using a variety of technologies including incineration, where electricity generation takes place via the heat generated by the combustion of the waste or the methane gas extracted from a landfill site.
Fortnightly Collections	Fortnightly collections typically involve the collection of household wastes or recyclables every other week.
Furniture Reuse Organisation (FRO)	A charitable organisation that works to environmental and social aims and seeks to reduce poverty by helping households in need access furniture, white goods and other household items at affordable prices by repairing and reusing furniture.
Green Waste	Vegetation and plant waste from household gardens and public parks and gardens.
Hazardous Waste	Any waste defined as hazardous as prescribed by the List of Wastes (England) Regulations 2005 (SI 2005/895).
Household Waste	Waste from domestic properties including waste from residual refuse collections, material collected for recycling and composting, plus waste from educational establishments, nursing and residential homes and street cleansing waste.

Industrial Waste	Waste from any factory and from any premises occupied by an industry (excluding mines and quarries) and from works of construction or demolition.
Kerbside Collection	Any regular collection of recyclables from private households and from commercial or industrial premises. It excludes collection services requested on demand.
Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS)	A mechanism developed by Government to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) going to landfill. This mechanism imposes a reducing amount of landfill permits to each local authority, up to 2020. These permits are tradable and each allows deposit of one tonne of BMW into landfill. There are penalties for failing to satisfy these obligations. The Government plan to abolish LATS at the end of 2012/13.
Landfill Sites	Landfills are areas of land in which waste is deposited, which often consist of disused quarries. In areas where there are limited or no ready-made voids, the waste is deposited above ground and the landscape is contoured, which is named landraising.
Leicestershire Waste Partnership (the Partnership)	Is composed of the seven district and borough councils of Leicestershire, and the County Council, who work under a Memorandum of Understanding to collectively work towards it's primary aim of improving the management of municipal waste in Leicestershire. Leicester City is an associate member as it has made its own arrangements for future waste management.
Life Cycle Assessment Tool	A Life Cycle Assessment Tool is used for assessing the potential environmental impacts of a product or service across its entire life cycle, or 'cradle to grave'.
Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW)	All waste collected by the local authority. This includes both municipal and non municipal fractions, such as construction and demolition waste. LACW is the definition that will be used in statistical publications, which previously referred to municipal waste
Love Food, Hate Waste campaign	Is a national campaign promoted by WRAP designed to encourage and assist people to reduce the amount of food waste that they produce.
Mail Preference Service (MPS)	The Mailing Preference Service is a free service set up and funded by the direct mail industry to enable consumers to have their names and home addresses in the UK removed from lists used by the industry (www.mpsonline.org.uk).
Master Composter	Master Composters are local people trained to spread the composting message in their local community.
Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT)	A form of waste processing facility that combines a sorting facility with a form of biological treatment such as composting or anaerobic digestion. MBT plants are designed to process mixed household waste.
Municipal Waste	This includes all waste collected by a Waste Collection Authority, or its agents, such as waste from household, municipal parks and gardens, beach cleansing, commercial or industrial premises, and fly-tipping.
On-Street Recycling	Provision of "litter bin" style recycling receptacles for the types of materials occurring in urban retail or commuter type environments.
Preparing for Reuse	Checking, cleaning or repairing recovery operations, by which products or components of products that have become waste are prepared so that they can be re-used without any other pre-processing
Private Finance Initiative (PFI)	A particular form of Public Private Partnership (PPP) by which a public sector organisation contracts with a private sector entity to provide services of a specified quality over a sustained period.

Proximity Principle	Suggests waste should generally be managed as near as possible to its place of production, to minimise the environmental effect of transporting waste.
Recycling	Recycling involves the reprocessing of waste material, either into the same product or a different one. Many non-hazardous wastes such as paper, glass, cardboard, plastics and scrap metals can be recycled.
Recycling & Household Waste Site (RHWS)	Sites operated by the Waste Disposal Authority (under the Environmental Protection Act 1990) where residents within a specified area can dispose of their household waste, in particular bulky waste, free of charge.
Regional Self Sufficiency	Principle that most waste should be treated or disposed of within the region in which it is produced.
Reuse	Any operation by which products or components that are not waste are used again for the same purpose for which they were conceived
Royal Mail Opt-Out Scheme	A service provided by Royal Mail to help people stop receiving unaddressed mail delivered by Royal Mail to their home.
Separate Collection	Kerbside schemes where recyclables are collected separately to the ordinary household waste collection - by a different vehicle/part of the vehicle or at a different time.
Sustainable Development	Development that can meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
Sustainable Schools Framework	Is a national framework that introduces eight 'doorways' through which schools may choose to initiate or extend their sustainable school activity. It focuses on ways in which sustainable development can be embedded into whole school management practices and provides practical guidance to help schools operate in a more sustainable way.
Sustainable Waste Management	Means using material resources efficiently, to cut down on the amount of waste we produce. And where waste is generated, dealing with it in a way that actively contributes to the economic, social and environmental goals of sustainable development.
Treatment	This involves the physical, chemical or biological processing of certain types of waste to render them less harmful, to reduce their volume, or to recycle / recover certain materials.
Waste Action Volunteers scheme	A scheme that trains local volunteers on waste prevention, reuse, recycling and wider environmental issues in order to engage residents in these issues and to changing their behaviour so as to reduce the amount of waste they produce and its environmental impact.
Waste Certificate	The Waste Certificate has been developed by Leicestershire County Council and is designed to help schools achieve the waste section of the Eco School status. Schools are shown how to reduce their waste and gain recognition for their efforts.
Waste Collection Authority (WCA)	A local authority responsible for the collection of municipal waste. The WCA passes on the waste to the waste disposal authority that is tasked with the ultimate treatment and disposal of that waste.
WasteDataFlow system	Is the web based system for municipal waste data reporting by UK local authorities to government.
Waste Disposal Authority (WDA)	Were established in the UK following the Environmental Protection Act 1990. WDAs are responsible for the disposal of municipal waste. WDAs must manage waste which is collected by local councils.
Waste Planning	Is the authority responsible for assessing planning applications for waste

Authority (WPA)	operations and facilities and deciding whether or not to allow them to go ahead. This is usually the local county or unitary council.
Waste Prevention	Changing living practices or behaviour to avoid the generation of waste that would have otherwise occurred (e.g. reducing amount of food waste, using Real Nappies as opposed to disposables).
Waste Reduction Standard	Provides a framework for the Partnership to achieve its commitment within the Strategy for partners to set an example by preventing, reusing, recycling and composting their own waste and using their buying power to positively encourage sustainable resource use.
Weekly Collections	Weekly collections typically involve the collection of household wastes or recyclables every week.
WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme)	Is a Government supported organisation that works across the UK to help businesses and individuals reap the benefits of reducing waste, developing sustainable products and using resources in an efficient way.

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<p align="center">Service Delivery Committee</p>	<p align="center">6 March 2012</p>	<p align="center">Matter for Decision</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------

Title: **Climate Change**

Author: **Jez Crooks, Acting Head of Environmental Development**

1 Introduction

Climate Change is an important issue for us all, not only in Oadby and Wigston, but throughout the country. It will impact upon our society and environment, with implications for our health, food security, water resources, and social and economic development. However, responding to climate change will also provide opportunities for us all, to reduce resource consumption and to improve efficiency, leading to financial savings and the protection of the environment for future generations

The Government monitors the climate change impact of local authorities and sets green house gas reduction targets. Climate change resilience is coordinated in Leicestershire through the partnership group CLIMA.

2 Recommendations

That the report be noted.

3 Information

In January 2007 the Council became a signature to the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change which committed Oadby and Wigston to “publicly declare, within appropriate plans and strategies, the commitment to achieve a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from our own authority’s operations, especially energy sourcing and use, travel and transport, waste production and disposal and the purchase of goods and services”

A Carbon Management Plan at Oadby and Wigston Borough Council has been developed following the signing of the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change. Oadby and Wigston Borough Council has developed a Vision and Strategy for Carbon Management within the Council’s operations in response to a number of international, national and local driving forces.

Oadby and Wigston Council has been an environmentally focussed authority for many years and continues to be in the top 25% of authorities within the country for the diversion of waste from landfill. In 2011/12 the Council will have recycled 47% (to be verified) of household waste.

The council has successfully implemented initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint including voltage optimisation works at major council owned facilities, replacement lighting at Bushloe House and the Depot, virtual IT servers, boiler upgrades, automatic lighting controls and printer rationalisation.

The Council procures with consideration of its environmental footprint and operates climate change impact assessment criteria on purchases such as the replacement telephone system.

The Government sets Green House Gas (GHG) saving targets for Local Authorities. For 2009/10 and 2010/11 these were a 4% decrease in GHG emissions per year against the baseline year of 2008/9. Oadby and Wigston made a total saving since 2008/9 of 12.88% as a result of the climate change initiatives it implemented ensuring it exceeded the national target. Performance for all of the Leicestershire authorities is shown in table 1.

Table 1. Greenhouse Gas Reports Summary (tCO₂e)

Authority	GHG figure 08/09	GHG figure 09/10	% annual change	GHG figure 10-11	% annual change	% change on 08/09 baseline
Leicestershire	81,014	79,005	-2.48%	77,577	-1.81%	-4.24%
Blaby	N/A	2,620.1	N/A	2,116.1	-19.24%	N/A
Charnwood	2,374	1,957	-17.57%	2,226	13.75%	-6.23%
Harborough	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
HBBC	N/A	3,368	N/A	3,377	0.27%	N/A
Melton	2,221	2,262	1.85%	2,220	-1.86%	-0.05%
NWLDC	N/A	4,264	N/A	3,743	-12.22%	N/A
OWBC	2,998.65	2,629.63	-12.31%	2,612.37	-0.66%	-12.88%

Work continues to identify additional areas in which further GHG savings can be made and to procure in an environmentally supportive manner.

In March 2012 the Council will commence a trial commercial recycling collection service which will provide an opportunity to engage with local businesses and raise awareness of their responsibility towards contributing to a sustainable environment.

4 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications from this report.

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Implications	
Health	Improve general health of future residents
Environment	protection of the environment for future generations
Community Safety	Flooding adversely affects the safety of occupiers and person in transit.
Human Rights	No impact
Equal Opportunities	Climate change factors are likely to have an adverse affect on the cost of living which could impact lower income families.
Risk Assessment	Climate change factors are likely to impact all aspects of residents lives to a lesser and greater degree.
Value for Money	Initiatives are monitored for cost effectiveness.
Equalities	No impact
Legal	No impact

Agenda Item 13



Service Delivery
Committee

6 March 2012

Matter for information

Title: **Service Delivery Plans Exception Report 2011-12**

Author: Lisa Rawling, Policy and Performance Officer

1 Introduction

This is the penultimate report detailing Service Delivery Plan targets behind schedule for the financial year 2011-12. All actions that are currently off target with a red traffic light status, as in the attached exception report, will be carried forward to the Service Delivery Plans for the forthcoming financial year, 2012/13.

2 Recommendations

That the Committee notes the performance against targets and agrees any recommendations.

3 Information

Actions in Service Delivery Plans will now be aligned and driven by the priorities agreed at the full Council meeting on the 20 July 2011. These are now reflected in the Corporate Priority column of the Service Delivery report.

All actions will contribute to one of the six following priorities:

1. Protect the good quality, consistent, value for money front line services provided to residents, particularly weekly refuse and recycling collections
2. Enhance the green environment of the Borough so that residents are able to take full advantage of it
3. Revitalise the town centres through development and by retaining free shoppers car parking
4. Work with the Police to create a safer Borough where people feel comfortable and at ease
5. Listen to and delegate more issues to the three town forums.
6. Work smarter to deliver the efficiency savings required to meet the continuing budget cuts.

The attached report shows the actions that are currently behind schedule.

Building Control

Develop a Building Control shared service

Proposal is a two-phased approach. The first phase is a high level business case that will establish the overall feasibility of such a proposal before embarking on the more detailed work required in phase two which would include business process mapping. Phase one completion date will now be June 2012. This will be carried forward to the 2012 / 13 SDP.

Client Services

Commercial recycling trial

Lack of resources has meant that the commencement of this project will be after March 2012. This will be carried forward to the 2012 / 13 SDP's.

Development Control

Document imaging of planning applications

Document imaging will be underway by March 2012. Final completion date to be agreed with contractors. This work will be carried forward to 2012-13 SDP.

Finance

Improve the purchase categories available within the electronic purchasing system and Produce xQuery reports within Integra e-Series for budget holders.

Both these targets have been deferred to allow the new organisational structure to evolve. Following the second phase of the restructure being completed, categorisation and appropriate reports can be designed to create more efficient dissemination of information to management and Members. These targets will be addressed by the end of 2012/13.

Housing

Produce a Tenancy Strategy

Working with other districts in the County on joint consultation work to help develop strategies. The districts collective programme of works anticipate completion by May / June 2012. This will be carried forward to the 2012/13 SDP.

Extra care housing scheme

Although work continues, No suitable sites have yet come forward. The County Council are still looking at financial models. This project will be carried forward to the 2012/13 SDP.

4 Financial Implications

None

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Implications	
Health	No significant impact.
Environment	No significant impact.
Community Safety	No significant impact.
Human Rights	No significant impact.
Equal Opportunities	No significant impact.
Risk Assessment	No significant impact.
Value for Money	No significant impact.
Equalities	No significant impact.
Legal	No significant impact.

Service Delivery Plan Update 2011/12

 **On Target**
  **Off Target**
  **Completed**

Action and Impact	Corporate priority	Progress / Outcome	Projected savings / Resources	Lead officer	Completion date	Traffic light status
Building Control						
Develop a Building Control shared service proposal in conjunction with Hinckley & Bosworth BC	Working smarter	High level business case to be completed by June 2012.	To be established through the proposal	Head of Built Environment	March 2012 Revised completion date: June 2012	
Client Services						
To trial a commercial recycling collection service – to provide financial savings, reduce climate change emissions and improve the environment.	Protecting front line services	Storage areas completed. Staffing will be available to develop and promote the service after the restructure.	Utilisation of spare resource. Income to be to be determined following trial.	Jez Crooks	December 2011 Revised completion within 2012/13 SDP	
Development Control						
Document imaging of all existing and future planning application files and consulting on planning applications electronically where possible	Working smarter	Contract in the process of being developed.	Budget provision of circa £72,000 to complete the project	Head of Built Environment Development Control Manager	March 2012 Revised completion within 2012/13 SDP	
Finance						
Improve the purchase categories available within the electronic purchasing system.	Working smarter	Deferred pending completion of restructure	Potential for circa £25k saving due to better budget making decisions and £2700 consultancy cost projected spend	Head of Finance	March 2012 Revised completion within 2012/13 SDP	

Service Delivery Plan Update 2011/12

 **On Target**
  **Off Target**
  **Completed**

Action and Impact	Corporate priority	Progress / Outcome	Projected savings / Resources	Lead officer	Completion date	Traffic light status
Produce XQuery reports within Integra e-Series for budget holders	Working smarter	Deferred pending completion of restructure.	£1800 resources cost for external consultant time	Head of Finance	March 2012 Revised completion within 2012/13 SDP	
Housing						
Produce a Tenancy Strategy	Protecting front line services	Working with other districts	Staff time to develop the Strategy	Simon Folwell	March 2012 Revised completion date: June 2012	
Identify a suitable site and development partner for an extra care housing scheme	Protecting front line services	Options for sites currently being investigated. Government funding for extra care housing has been reduced. The County Council is exploring models for developing an extra care scheme, but it is unclear whether they will be viable in the current economic climate.	Staff time required to progress a scheme	Simon Folwell	Mar 2012 Revised completion within 2012/13 SDP	