

## Appendix 2

Draft Minute from 16 June Scrutiny and Overview Committee

### **Best Value Review of Waste Management and Street Cleaning**

The Chief Environmental Health Officer presented this report on the findings of the Best Value Review of Waste Management, Recycling and Street Cleaning and the resulting proposals for improvement. Cabinet will discuss this issue at its meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2005.

#### Trade Waste

The Chief Environmental Health Officer reported that the Council needed to liaise with Businesses to encourage them to recycle. Councillor Mrs DSK Spink, the Environmental Health portfolio holder, explained that she was writing to Addenbrookes, Papworth Trust and Fulbourn hospitals to encourage them to carry out recycling as the Advisory Group had expressed concerns over their level of activity. However, she concluded that the Council did not have the power to force businesses to recycle.

In response to questioning, the Chief Environmental Health Officer stated that legislation existed to make certain premises responsible for littering being carried out by their patrons.

#### Milton Recycling Centre

Members of the Committee expressed concerns at the way in which the Milton Recycling Centre was run. In particular Members reported that not all recyclable waste was being recycled and staff were either absent or unhelpful. This could make residents cynical about recycling. The Chief Environmental Health Officer reported that the County Council, who ran this centre, would be as keen as this authority to increase their recycling rates. Councillor Mrs Spink announced that this matter would be raised at a meeting with the County Council.

#### Dog Waste

Councillor Mason agreed to liaise with the Chief Environmental Health Officer regarding problems with the collection from dog waste bins. It was understood that tough legislation, which allowed fixed penalties for dog fouling, were being introduced and this could help the Council to meet its target in the action plan.

#### Partnership Bus

It was noted that there were two buses which toured the District educating residents about recycling and one bus visited schools.

#### Compost Bins

The Chief Environmental Health Officer believed that a survey indicated that compost bins were still being used and Councillor Mrs Spink added that there was still a demand for these bins. The Chief Environmental Health Officer agreed to send the details of the survey to all Committee Members.

#### Recycling Credits

Councillor Mrs Spink confirmed that no decision had been made regarding the payment of recycling credits to parish councils.

#### Meeting the Targets in the Action Plan

The Chief Environmental Health Officer reminded the Committee that the report had taken into account the current financial situation of the Council and the possibility of capping.

#### Plastic Recycling

The capacity of the plastic bank recycling service had been increased at the end of last calendar year. A report on plastic recycling would go the portfolio holder on 27<sup>th</sup> June. The recycling of plastics was expensive and it was unlikely that the current service would be greatly expanded.

#### Street Cleaning

The Chief Environmental Health Officer stated that the Council's street cleaning programme had suffered as a result of the authority focusing on improving the authorities recycling rates. Councillor Mrs Spink reported that the Council was liaising with its partners to try and improve this service.

#### Fly-Tipping

It was understood that residents were encouraged to gather evidence regarding fly-tipping to help bring about convictions. The penalties were severe with a fine of up to £50,000 or up to 5 years in prison.

The Chief Environmental Health Officer stated that the Council could remove fly tipped waste from private land but would charge for this service.

#### Paper Bin

Councillor DH Morgan was encouraged to liaise with Councillor Mrs Spink regarding the deployment of a paper bank in Cambourne.

#### Performance Indicators and Other Targets

The Chief Environmental Health Officer reported that he was confident that all the PI targets in the report could be met. He claimed responsibility for the completion of the actions listed in the action plan at appendix D.