

# Discussion Paper to Overview & Scrutiny Committee, 26th July 2011

## Local Performance Indicator – Waste

### 1.0 Background

- 1.1 In April 2011 the Committee discussed NI192, regarding the percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting and had some concerns about performance in relation to that indicator. It was suggested that it would be more useful in the quarterly reports to measure “the savings we are making in landfill charges” as this is an important focus on this area as a measure to demonstrate how the Council is performing in relation to reducing the amount of waste disposed of through landfill.

### 2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that:  
the report be noted.

### 3.0 Key Issues

- 3.1 All household waste which is collected by the Council in Redditch is passed to Worcestershire County Council (WCC), the Waste Disposal Authority, who bear all the costs of disposal. Therefore any information in relation to the costs of disposing of waste and the amount of waste landfilled has to be provided by WCC.
- 3.2 Having discussed the Committee’s request with colleagues from Worcestershire County Council, it has been confirmed that there are difficulties in providing the cost of landfilling waste arising from Redditch for the reasons outlined below:
- a) All of the ‘grey bin’ waste from Redditch is mixed with that of Bromsgrove at the Redditch transfer station and only an estimation could be made of the proportion of this that is Redditch waste.
  - b) There is a cost to **all** waste treatments – both landfill, energy recovery and recycling and the costs can be very similar.
  - c) A proportion of the waste from Redditch does not go to landfill but is processed at an energy from waste facility.
- 3.3 These issues were discussed by the Committee on 5<sup>th</sup> July and Members raised a number of questions as detailed below. Further discussions have been held with WCC colleagues and answers have been provided as shown.

**Question 1 :** Does kg per head refer to the adult population only?

**Answer:** No, the definition states "...per head of population" with no distinction between adult/child.

**Question 2:** What proportion of all Redditch waste (not just grey bin waste) is mixed with waste from Bromsgrove?

**Answer:** All of the grey bin waste from Redditch is mixed with Bromsgrove's grey bin waste at the Transfer Station in Redditch. Green bin recyclables from Redditch are mixed with green bin recyclables from Bromsgrove, Herefordshire, Worcester City, Wychavon and Wyre Forest, but only when they are delivered to EnviroSort for sorting.

**Question 3:** What proportion of the waste from Redditch does not go to landfill? (If we do not maintain accurate figures are we able to provide an estimate?)

**Answer:** The table below shows the total tonnes of household waste collected for the last 2 years and also estimated % splits to the different disposal options of landfill and energy from waste (EfW).

This shows that the proportion of waste from Redditch which did not go to landfill last year was **61.4%**.

	<b>2009/10 Tonnes</b>	<b>2010/11 Tonnes</b>	<b>2009/10 Est. %</b>	<b>2010/11 Est. %</b>
Total Household Waste collected (from NI192):	<b>28,137</b>	<b>28,171</b>		
Residual Household Waste (NI191):	19,950	20,170		
Recycled/Reused/Composted (NI192):	8,187	8,001		
Residual HHW to LF (calculated):	4,003	10,884	14.2%	38.6%
Residual HHW to EfW	15,947	9,286	56.7%	33.0%
Recycled/reused	8,184	7,914	29.1%	28.1%
Composted	3	87	0.0%	0.3%
			100.0%	100.0%

3.4 It is important to note that the % of waste which is taken to the Coventry Energy from Waste facility is significantly lower in 2010/11 to the previous year due to the availability of spare capacity at the plant; this is not a guaranteed disposal route.

3.5 Severn Waste Services are currently seeking planning permission to construct a Worcestershire based EfW facility in Hartlebury. The public inquiry to determine whether planning permission should be granted, so that this facility, EnviRecover can be built will take place at County Hall, Worcester, commencing on Tuesday, November 22nd. A dedicated website has been set up where lots of information is available at [www.envirecover.co.uk](http://www.envirecover.co.uk)

3.6 As waste prevention is a key part of our waste strategy, a useful indicator is one of the previous best value performance indicators – BV 84 - which measures the **total** amount of waste collected (kg per head). Historical figures are given below:

2006/07	406 kg per head
2007/08	374
2008/09	362
2009/10	353
2010/11	

#### **4.0 Conclusions**

4.1 Figures can be provided on the different disposal routes that household waste takes, as shown in the table above.

4.2 It is recommended that the Committee considers monitoring the total kg of household waste collected as outlined in 2.5 as a key way of assessing whether our strategy is effective and overall waste disposal costs are reducing.