

**Name of meeting:** Cabinet

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Title of report:** Re-Profile of Kirklees Resource & Waste Strategy 2021-2030

**Purpose of report:** To inform Cabinet of the re-profile of the Kirklees Resource & Waste Strategy 2021-30 and seek approval for the revisions.

<b>Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £500k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?</b>	<b>Yes</b>  This is an update of the 12 month and 5-year commitments within the original strategy. The update has been formulated with further internal engagement, public scrutiny, and discussions with DEFRA. This is primarily to reflect the changes to Central Government legislation and funding timeframes.
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u></b>	<b>Key Decision – Yes, published 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>  <b>Private Report/Private Appendix – No</b>
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	<b>Yes</b>  Presented to Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Panel 30 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?</b>	<b>David Shepherd – 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>  <b>Isabel Brittain (Deputised) – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>  <b>Julie Muscroft (Deputised) – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023</b>
<b>Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u></b>	<b>Culture and Greener Kirklees - Cllr Yusra Hussain</b>

**Electoral wards affected:** All

**Ward councillors consulted:** All – party briefings conducted throughout November/December 2020 for the original strategy and the reprofile has been presented to Members Reference Group 17<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

**Public or private:** Public

**Has GDPR been considered?** N/A

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 The Kirklees Resource & Waste Strategy 2021-30 was approved and adopted at full Council in September 2021.
- 1.2 Since the launch of the strategy, there are significant uncertainties around government legislation for waste management and the associated funding. This is more important than ever given the current financial landscape as the UK has entered a cost-of-living crisis meaning the Council is facing increased demands and financial pressures.
- 1.3 Given the above, a re-profiling of the Resources & Waste Strategy has been undertaken to revise the targets set out and the deliverables within, to allow time for more clarity and allow the Council to make sound choices, without losing the level of ambition.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 The Resources & Waste Strategy 2021-2030 is included alongside this report (Appendix One) which sets out how we aimed to achieve our vision of “a clean, green, sustainable future for Kirklees with zero waste to landfill and where waste is valued as a resource through re-use, recycling, and recovery.”
- 2.2 There have been many positive initiatives delivered as part of the strategy including but not limited to: introducing a recycling service to schools and businesses via our trade waste service, adding plastic pots, tubs and trays (PTTs) to our kerbside recycling collection service, offering a composting subsidy scheme to residents, offering a new bookable bulky waste collection service and launching a Reuse Shop in Huddersfield town centre.
- 2.3 The strategy replicates many aspects of those detailed in DEFRA’s national Resources and Waste Strategy for England, published in 2018. Cabinet were asked to note when approving the strategy in 2021 that ongoing delays to the government’s Environment Bill may pose a risk to the delivery of this strategy.
- 2.4 There has been significant delays to the expected funding from Central Government which has meant we are no longer able to deliver some of the larger-scale changes to collections within the timescales we had previously outlined, including rolling out kerbside glass and food collections.
- 2.5 Without the ability to implement the larger scale changes, the targets set out in the strategy require realignment. It is noted however that we have successfully met our diversion from landfill target and so this has been increased further inline with our ambition for zero avoidable waste to landfill.

## **3. Revised Targets**

- 3.1 It is proposed to revise the strategy’s key targets in line with national targets as follows:
  - Achieve a recycling rate of at least 70% at our Household Waste & Recycling Centres by 2030.
  - Recycle at least 65% of municipal waste by 2035.
  - Achieve a 95% diversion from landfill rate by 2030.

## **4. 12 Month Pledge**

- 4.1 Due to the level of uncertainty faced, the Resources & Waste strategy will now commit to initiatives on an annual basis, outlined in a 12 month pledge, with key aspirations for the following 5 years. The first 12 month pledge for 2023-24 can be found at Appendix Two. Further pledges and key decisions will be presented to Cabinet where appropriate.

4.2 The forecasted spend for this period under the original action plan was £2.9m, some of which is committed spend underway, and the revised initiatives will be at an estimated cost of around £1m (See Appendix Three) to be provided for within the Medium Term Financial Plan.

## **5. Contractual Arrangements**

5.1 Kirklees' waste disposal contract is currently in place until 2025 with the option to extend by up to three years.

5.2 Arrangements for the waste disposal contract will be presented to Cabinet in the coming months and the re-profiled strategy aligns the deliverables under these contractual arrangements.

## **6.0. Reuse Shop Procurement**

6.1 The current Reuse Shop Scheme is operating under a trial which will come to an end in June 2024.

6.2 As the current Reuse Shop Scheme will end in June 2024 the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 apply which means opportunity to run the Scheme has to be put out to competition. Officers from Operational Services are currently working with procurement and legal colleagues to plan a procurement exercise, with a view to undertake a procurement and to award a contract to the successful bidder. This requires authority to commence the procurement and delegated authority to award any contract as a result of the procurement.

## **7.0. Depot Requirements**

7.1 There is limited capacity within our existing waste depots to accommodate the increased fleet and resources required to deliver the larger scale changes to the service.

7.2 Site surveys have been completed on land owned by Kirklees which have proved feasible for development of additional depot capacity.

7.3 Due to its proximity to the Household Waste & Recycling Centre, the Emerald Street Depot requires some improvements works for additional security to secure the equipment, vehicles and materials stored within. These include an electric gate, roller shutters, fencing and boundary works totalling £70,000.

## **8.0. Information required to take a decision**

8.1 Enclosed with this report is a copy of the Kirklees Resources & Waste Strategy 2021-30 and the 2023 update.

## **9.0. Implications for the Council**

- **Working with People**

A public consultation exercise was conducted in Autumn 2020 and the Resources & Waste Strategy incorporates the findings of this exercise. The revised targets and initiatives still align with the findings of this exercise and we will continue to place citizens at the heart of our decisions and will continue to conduct further public engagement as the revised initiatives from this strategy are implemented, as well as utilising trials where appropriate.

- **Working with Partners**

The overall Resources & Waste Strategy encapsulates how we will provide better waste management services for our residents and our businesses and the engagement we will undertake with partners to achieve our ambitions.

The current waste disposal contract offers very good value for money but does not deliver all the environmental ambitions, particularly regarding recycling, that we would expect from a more modern contract. The co engagement process will include Suez and other waste disposal

operators in the market to gain a full understanding of opportunities available to provide the best service possible for Kirklees residents. Arrangements for the waste disposal contract will be presented to Cabinet in the coming months.

We have formed new partnerships with the community sector through the trial of the reuse shop and will develop these new links further when we seek to procure a more permanent Reuse Shop Scheme and bulky waste reuse partner. The focus will be to enhance the great work that is already being carried out by these organisations.

- **Place Based Working**

The overarching strategy details how we intend to take a bold Place-based approach to deliver our services and also takes into account equality versus equity, where some communities may need additional resources and support. We will continue to work with communities and through a Place Partnership engagement approach we can prioritise local needs and Councillors, using the insight they have about the communities they represent, will be central to this activity.

As we deliver the strategy our engagement will include working with anchor community groups and making community connections via third sector leaders and teams such as the Active Citizens and community officers, especially throughout the development of our community grant scheme, and how best to include smaller town centres throughout the authority to access reusable items more easily.

- **Climate Change and Air Quality**

The overall strategy plays a key role in tackling climate change and improving air quality and the measures within the strategy will have a reduction upon both. Although the strategy will involve the expansion of our fleet, we will be seeking to ensure this is a green fleet wherever possible and ensuring the initiatives do not increase the number of vehicle movements where we can practically keep this low. Optimisation of collection rounds will be achieved using specialist software to minimise the mileage covered on a daily basis. A Strategic Environmental Assessment conducted when developing the Resources & Waste Strategy showed the impact of introducing the strategy provides a positive impact on the environment.

- **Improving outcomes for children**

The main strategy details how we will continue to provide an extensive engagement programme within schools and deliver meaningful educational resources to empower children to make a difference both now and in the future. For example, the improvement of litter bins gives us an opportunity to work with schools in the siting of litter bins, to engage with pupils to raise awareness of the issues that littering causes and to work with a range of schools to deliver workshops that link into our reuse and recycling aims.

We will also work with colleges and universities to support entrepreneurship and skills development in relation to waste management / circular economy; encouraging and enabling young people to explore, innovate and set up new sustainable businesses within the district.

- **Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees**

An Integrated Impact Assessment was completed for the development of the Kirklees Resource & Waste Strategy 2021-2030. This assessment showed a positive impact overall in relation to the most vulnerable people in our district who may be in poverty or on a low income.

The Strategy commitments intend to enable all residents of Kirklees to make the most of community and personal resources by improving and expanding the services that promote reuse, repair, education, skill development and waste reduction.

We will continue to work with the voluntary and business community to offer access to waste reduction advice and affordable options to recycle, explore the reuse of materials and encourage employment opportunities.

- **Other (eg /Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

The legal background was set out in the cabinet report dated 21 September 2022. Any procurement will be carried out in accordance with Contract procedure Rules (2023), Public Contracts Regulations (2015) and Financial Procedure Rules (2023).

- **Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)**

An Integrated Impact Assessment was completed for the development of the Kirklees Resource & Waste Strategy 2021-2030 and can be found [here](#). The assessment did not identify specific issues with the strategy itself but such is the scope and scale of the transformation of waste services detailed within the strategy, further IIAs will be required for several of the specific proposals detailed within the strategy.

## **10.0. Consultation**

10.1 A Public consultation took place from October 2020 – January 2021 and the Strategy incorporates the findings of this exercise.

## **11.0. Engagement**

11.1 When formulating the Resources & Waste Strategy, an extensive engagement process was conducted in Autumn 2020 and the Strategy incorporates the findings of this exercise.

11.2 This is an update of the 12 month and 5-year commitments within the original strategy. The update has been formulated with further internal engagement, public scrutiny and discussions with DEFRA. This is primarily to reflect the changes to Central Government legislation and funding timeframes.

## **12.0. Next steps and timelines**

12.1 The 2023 update to the strategy will be published on the Kirklees Website following approval from Cabinet and implementation of the 12-month pledge will commence. There will then be annual pledges made for the following 12-month deliverables until a new Resources & Waste Strategy is published.

12.2 If agreed, detailed planning will commence for works on the depot expansion with a further report to Cabinet outlining the timelines and financial requirements.

## **13.0. Officer recommendations and reasons**

- Officers recommend that the 2023 Resources & Waste Strategy update is agreed and published.
- To approve delegated authority to the Strategic Director for Growth & Regeneration, in consultation with the relevant portfolio-holders and the Service Director for Finance, for expenditure of sums outlined in Appendix Three to support the development and implementation of the re-profiled Kirklees Resources & Waste Strategy 2021-30 and supporting infrastructure.
- To approve the undertaking of the procurement for the Reuse Shop Scheme, and to delegate authority to the Service Director for Highways and Streetscene, in consultation with the relevant portfolio-holders and the Service Director for Finance, to authorise the award of a contract to the successful bidder following the procurement.

## **14.0. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations**

14.1 The Cabinet Portfolio Holder supports the officer recommendations and recommends that Cabinet accepts and endorses these.

## **15.0. Contact officer(s)**

Natalie Clark, Programme Manager  
Will Acornley, Head of Operational Services

#### **16.0. Background Papers and History of Decisions**

- Collection Consistency Framework – 2018-2020
- Party Briefings – November-December 2020
- Scrutiny Panel – December 2020
- Public Engagement – Autumn/Winter 2020/21
- Integrated Impact Assessment – August 2021
- Strategic Environmental Assessment – August 2021
- Full Council – September 2021
- Resources & Waste Strategy Published – September 2021
- Cabinet Update – 21 September 2022

#### **17.0. Service Director responsible**

Graham West – Service Director, Highways and Streetscene