

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

SCRUTINY STEERING BOARD

4TH MARCH 2008

REFUSE AND RECYCLING TASK GROUP

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor Mrs. M. A. Sherrey JP
Responsible Head of Service	Head of Street Scene and Waste Management
Scrutiny Task Group Chairman	Councillor C. R. Scurrall

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 To consider the findings and recommendations made by the Refuse and Recycling Task Group which are contained within the attached report.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Members are requested to:
- (a) consider and approve the attached report and recommendations contained within it; and
 - (b) submit the attached report to the Cabinet for approval.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the Meeting of the Scrutiny Steering Board on 12th June 2007, it was decided a Task Group would be established to scrutinise issues relating to refuse and recycling and that Councillor Taylor would be appointed as Chairman.
- 3.2 The full terms of reference were approved by the Scrutiny Steering Board at its meeting held on 3rd July 2007 when membership of the Task Group was also agreed.
- 3.3 After the first meeting of the Task Group, Councillor Taylor believed he had an interest and therefore resigned immediately. The Scrutiny Steering Board appointed Councillor Scurrall to take over as Chairman at its meeting on 2nd October 2007.
- 3.4 Further details can be found in the "Terms of Reference" and "Background and Methodology" sections on page 6 of the attached report.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 For the majority of recommendations there are either no financial implications or minimal financial implications as outlined in the attached report. All of these costs can be met within the existing budget.
- 4.2 In relation to the NVQ training referred to in recommendations 1 to 3, funding assistance from Learning and Skills Council (LSC) is available and would cover the full cost of recommendations 1 and 2. It is expected that they will also cover approximately 50% of the costs of recommendation 3 which in total would amount to over £75,000. Therefore, the total cost to this Council will be approximately £1500 and this can be met within the existing training budget.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no legal implications relating to this report.

6. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 This report links to Council Objectives Environment and Improvement.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 The risk of not implementing the recommendations contained within the attached scrutiny report is that this Council does not continue to improve the refuse and recycling service and in particular, customer service standards.

8. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 If the recommendations were approved and implemented, residents living in Bromsgrove District would benefit from improved customer service (e.g. via NVQ Training being provided to refuse and recycling crews, which would have an emphasis on customer satisfaction, as explained in the attached report).

9. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no implications directly relating to this report for the Council's Equalities and Diversity Policies.

10. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 As there will be a significant amount of funding assistance available from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) in relation to implementing recommendations 1, 2 and 3, it means that the NVQ Training would be value for money, particularly as it states within the recommendations that specific local protocols would need to be built into the training to ensure it meets the requirements for Bromsgrove District.

11. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Procurement Issues – None.
Personnel Implications – There are implications in relation to recommendation 2 which requests that it is made a requirement for all new employees to either hold the NVQ in Waste Management or achieve it within an agreed timeframe.
Governance/Performance Management – None
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998 – None
Policy – None
Environmental – the refuse and recycling service is inextricably linked to environmental issues.

12. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT

Portfolio Holder	Yes
Chief Executive	Yes
Executive Director (Partnerships and Projects)	Yes
Executive Director (Services)	Yes
Assistant Chief Executive	Yes
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Financial Services	Yes
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	Yes
Head of Organisational Development & HR	Yes – The Learning and OD Manager was consulted.
Corporate Procurement Team	No

13. WARDS AFFECTED

All Wards.

14. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Refuse and Recycling Scrutiny Report including its seven appendices.

15. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

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