

DRAFT Scrutiny Proposal

Topic: Integrated Waste Services			
Background to the issue (what is it and why is it being considered for scrutiny)	<p>On 16 January 2014 Council agreed the following notice of motion:</p> <p><i>"It is frequently suggested that large savings can be achieved by combining District Councils' responsibility for collection of waste with the County Council's responsibility for disposal. In view of this Council requests the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board to set up a Task and Finish Group in conjunction with the Cabinet Member with Responsibility to investigate the potential of an integrated refuse collection and disposal service across the County leading to greater efficiency and more sustainable outcomes. This review to be completed by October 2014."</i></p> <p>On 30 January the OSPB agreed that a Scrutiny Task Group should be set up, led by Councillor Ken Pollock.</p>		
Terms of reference	<p>To:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate the potential for introducing an integrated waste collection and disposal service in Worcestershire • examine potential costs, savings, benefits and barriers • make recommendations to Cabinet on a way forward 		
Scrutiny Officer & Scrutiny Liaison Officer	<p>Suzanne O'Leary, Overview and Scrutiny Manager Stella Wood, Overview and Scrutiny Officer Kevin Stilgoe, Scrutiny Liaison Officer</p>		
Suitability for scrutiny. Which of the following criteria does it meet?			
<i>Is the issue a priority area for the Council?</i>	No	<i>Does it examine a poorly performing service?</i>	No
<i>Is it a key issue for local people?</i>	No	<i>Has it been prompted by new Government guidance or legislation?</i>	No
<i>Will the scrutiny have a clear impact on services?</i>	Yes	<i>Will it result in improvements to the way the Council operates?</i>	Potentially
<i>Are improvements for local people likely as a result?</i>	Possibly		
Scope of scrutiny (what issues will it cover and what won't it cover)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of current arrangements for waste collection and disposal in Worcestershire including the current level of joint working and future plans • Details of waste collection in each District to include type and length of contracts, assets, types of material collected, method of collection, waste collected per head and cost per head in each District • Details of waste disposal to include contract details, type of disposal facilities, methods of disposal, staff and assets, disposal data and costs etc 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The potential costs, savings and benefits of and barriers to introducing an integrated waste collection service in Worcestershire • Options for models of a joint integrated waste collection and disposal service, what might work best in Worcestershire and when joint working might best be introduced • Implications for District Councils if joint working could be introduced • Task Group's view regarding potential future implications of EU Waste Framework Directive on sorting recyclables at source (rather than commingled) • How integrated waste services operate in Unitary authorities • Best practice in other authorities (i.e. Somerset Waste Partnership, East Kent and South East Wales) <p><i>N.B. O&S has committed to ensure that the following are considered in all scrutiny reviews as appropriate</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>equality and diversity issues</i> • <i>commissioning</i> • <i>localism</i>
Advantages to conducting scrutiny & Indicators of success (ie how will you know a good scrutiny has been done?)	The evidence on whether a joint integrated waste collection and disposal service would be feasible, and the potential costs, savings, benefits and barriers will be clearly understood.
Has anyone else examined the issue?	Joint Scrutiny of Partnerships in Waste Management – June 2007: (Joint scrutiny report by 4 Councils in South East Wales) LGA, CCN and WIN Case Studies (Somerset and East Kent)
Any disadvantages or pitfalls to conducting this scrutiny?	
INFORMATION NEEDS	
Key Documents, Reports & Data required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Minute No 1534, 16 January 2014 (Notice of Motion) • Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy • Waste Core Strategy • Overview of current situation and details of existing contracts, staff and assets involved in waste collection, types of material collected, method of collection, waste collected per head and cost per head in each District etc • Member and Officer Waste Forum discussion notes relating to advice from Worcestershire Leaders Board on pursuing partnership working in 2011 • East Kent Joint Waste Partnership (to save £30million) – WIN Case Study March 2011 • Somerset Waste Partnership (Savings £1.7million per year) – LGA Case study http://www.local.gov.uk/search/-/journal_content/56/10180/3486363/ARTICLE • Waste Information Network and Regional Improvement & Efficiency Partnerships (RIEPs) – guidance • Government Guidance
Is an expert adviser	Seek expert witness possibly re options for potential models and how these might be introduced

needed?	
Possible interviewees	Cabinet Member for Waste and Sustainability John Hobbs, Director, BEC Rachel Hill, Programme Director Richard Woodward, Waste Services Manager District Council Officers responsible for waste collection Waste Collection Contractors Waste Disposal Contractor Unitary Authority representative for waste services Somerset Waste Partnership representative Expert witness (possibly from SE Wales Integrated Waste Partnership tbc)
Is this an issue that young people would be interested in? If so, ask Youth Cabinet for evidence.	No, the issue is about the potential for an integrated waste collection service and how the County and District Council's can work together to achieve savings.
Site Visits	Consider Somerset, South East Wales and East Kent waste partnerships
Types of meeting/consultation needed? (eg workshops/focus groups/public meetings/questionnaires etc)	Task Group Meetings
Any meetings to be held outside of County Hall?	Potentially
Media & publicity needs?	?
OUTLINE TIMETABLE	
Proposal to OSPB	12 March 2014
Evidence Gathering	April – July 2014
Scrutiny Report to OSPB	17 September 2014
Scrutiny Report to Cabinet	October 2014