

**RECYCLING STRATEGY FOR CARDIFF AND THE PROGRAMME FOR
CHANGE: MONITORING/UPDATE**

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members with an update in relation to the roll-out of the Recycling Strategy for Cardiff 2021-25 and the next steps needed to progress towards reaching the Welsh Government recycling target of 70% by 2025, and to hear from Councillors whose constituents are currently separating their recycling.

Structure of the Papers

2. Attached to this report is:
 - **Appendix 1** - Presentation - 'Delivering Segregated Recycling and the Cleansing and Enforcement Restructure'
3. Oral statements will also be made by Councillors in attendance, in person and remotely, at the meeting.

Scope of Scrutiny

3. During this scrutiny, Members have the opportunity to explore:
 - i. Services for residents
 - ii. Pilot area outcomes
 - iii. Timeline for changes
 - iv. Changes to Trade Waste
 - v. Benefits
 - vi. Challenges
 - vii. Future Steps

Background

4. Welsh Government is committed to supporting local authorities to improve recycling performance as it committed to becoming a zero-waste nation.

5. As a result Cardiff's recycling has improved, however, it still lags behind other Welsh authorities.
6. The legislative requirements for recycling performance as set by Welsh Government was for the council to achieve 64% by 2021/22 followed by 70% by 2024/25. Cardiff did not meet this target, however recent performance has suggested that we are moving closer towards this, **slide 3**.
7. The current service provision for residents is detailed in **slide 4**.
8. **Slide 5** provides information and some outcomes from the segregated recycling pilot areas.
9. The proposed timeline for introducing changes excluding flats and Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) are outlined in **slide 7**.
10. **Slide 8** highlights changes to the trade waste, i.e the need to separate recycling, following the introduction of new legislation in October 2023.
11. The proposed restructure of Cleansing and Enforcement to meet the needs of the strategy is noted in **slide 9**.
12. **Slide 10** mentions the Benefits to the changes.
13. The next steps are noted in **slide 11**.

Previous Scrutiny

14. In September 2022 the Committee commented on the final Strategy and made a number of recommendations, below, all of which were accepted:
 - i. The impact of the segregated recycling pilot in terms of reduced contamination and increased recycling rates are included in future communications
 - ii. Communications around the implementation of the strategy use language associated with the 'circular economy' to embed this in the public consciousness.
 - iii. Local councillors are included in any communications about the roll out of separated recycling in their area.
 - iv. Provisions are made to support and enable partially sighted/blind residents to recycle, e.g. braille tags to differentiate the containers.

- v. The Committee are kept informed of decisions in relation to preferred containers as the roll out progresses and different solutions are trialled, and in particular solutions for properties without frontages, flats and HMOs

Way Forward

31. Cllr Caro Wild, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Matt Wakelam, Assistant Director of Street Scene have been invited to make a statement and answer Member's questions. They have been asked to make a brief presentation followed by Member's questions.

Legal Implications

The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to

Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to:

- i) Consider the information in this report, and the presentation and any further information presented at the meeting;
- ii) Determine whether they would like to make any comments, observations or recommendations on this matter; and
- iii) Decide the way forward for any future scrutiny of the issues discussed.

DAVINA FIORE

Director of Governance & Legal Services

10th March 2023