

CABINET WASTE AND RECYCLING GROUP

Thursday, 19th December, 2019

Present: Councillor Paul Cox (in the Chair), Councillors Michael Miller

Apologies Stephen Button and Joyce Plummer

34 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Councillors Button and Plummer submitted their apologies for absence.

There were no substitutions.

35 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

36 Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 10th June 2019

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 10th June 2019 were submitted for approval.

Resolved - **That the Minutes be received and approved as a correct record.**

37 Matters Arising

Councillor Miller referred to minute 26 relating to appropriate licences and permits held by Rishton Recycling Ltd. The Executive Director (Environment) pointed out that Hyndburn Borough Council no longer used Rishton Recycling Ltd. to process waste and confirmed that this waste was now sent to Lancashire County Council to deal with. Councillor Miller pointed out the importance of having measures in place to deal with the disposal of waste properly.

38 New Recycling Service Update

The Executive Director (Environment) reported on the progress of the implementation of the new recycling service 12 months ago. He reported that the introduction of the recycling bins had contributed to a reduction in litter and a positive response from both residents and members of staff. He referred to the comprehensive service provided by Hyndburn, which was now only just beginning to be introduced by other Councils. He referred to the different waste types and how the demographics of the borough affected the collection rates.

The Chair suggested that an item was placed on the next Newsround to share how well the Waste Services staff had done with the new recycling collection service. The Executive Director (Environment) agreed to ensure that this was done.

Agreed - **That the Executive Director (Environment) places on item on Newsround to share the success of the new recycling collection service.**

39 Recycling Collections

The Executive Director (Environment) reported that the 2018/19 recycling tonnages had been uploaded to the national Waste Dataflow database and that the Council's recycling rate would show a slight increase to 34% and that there would be a further increase would hopefully further increase in 2019/20.

The Chair referred to targets required of Councils particularly to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

Councillor Miller suggested that Hyndburn pushed for an East Lancashire Waste Strategy to include the use of more transfer stations. He also asked why there had been a delay in providing details of tonnage so late in the year and pointed out that they were nearly nine months behind. The Executive Director (Environment) explained that the Government publishes the data in December for the preceding financial year (the latest being 2018/2019). Councillor Miller was also informed the Council had not currently determined the inclusion of Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) in any of their future plans as this would probably be addressed through the Lancashire Waste Strategy.

The Executive Director (Environment) reported on the arson attack in the Council's vehicle compound opposite the Willows Lane officers which had destroyed the five waste collection vehicles and that there was an ongoing Police investigation. The Executive Director (Environment) informed the meeting that the department's disaster recovery policy was activated and replacement vehicles were delivered over the following two days. All waste collections had caught up by the Friday as the incident had happened on the Monday evening.

Agreed - That the report be noted.

40 Garden Waste Subscription Service

The Executive Director (Environment) provided statistical information with regards to the garden waste subscription service and informed the meeting that the Council would be higher up the recycling tables if they were able to collect greater amounts of green waste. However, he explained that this would not be possible due to the significant number of terraced properties in Hyndburn but suggested the increase in new builds with gardens may increase the amount of green waste collected in future years, if householders subscribed to the service. In respect of the garden waste subscription he indicated that there had been a very slight increase in numbers on the year before.

Agreed - That the report be noted.

41 Household Waste Recycling Centre (Whinney Hill)

The Executive Director (Environment) reported on the changes to opening times the Household Waste Recycling Centres by Lancashire County Council although pointed out that Whinney Hill would remain open 7 days per week.

Agreed - That the report be noted.

42 Commercial Collections

The Executive Director (Environment) reported on the number of commercial collections carried out by the Council and referred to the amount regularly recycled.

Agreed - That the report be noted.

43 Climate Change and the Environment

The Executive Director (Environment) pointed out that the Government had declared a climate change emergency and explained that the highly anticipated Environment Bill and Strategy had received its second reading before Parliament was dissolved for the General Elections and that there was uncertainty of whether the Bill could continue through the Parliamentary process or if it would have to start again. He reported that all Heads of Service had been asked for suggestions of ways to reduce carbon emissions and outlined a number of ways that Waste Services could contribute including the replacement and use of electric vehicles and increasing rates of recycling.

Councillor Miller pointed out that this would have a significant impact on waste services and forecasting in the future and the need to finance these changes.

The Executive Director (Environment) indicated that electric vehicles in the Waste collection marketplace were still under road testing and only just starting to become available for purchasing. However, indications were that these would be double to the cost of the current vehicles with diesel engines, although electric lifters could be considered on any replacement fire damaged vehicles.

The Executive Director (Environment) reported that officers would continue to push Lancashire County Council, as the disposal authority, for financial support to improve and expand recycling opportunities for Hyndburn residents.

Agreed - That the report be noted.

44 Date of Next Meeting

Date of Next meeting would confirmed for early Summer.

Signed:.....

Date:

Chair of the meeting
At which the minutes were confirmed

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