

Subject: Hertfordshire Waste Partnership Annual Report 2016/17
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Date: 05 March 2018

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To present the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership Annual Report to the Environment & Economy Select Committee, and provide members with a summary of the work completed by the partnership in 2016/17.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That members note the contents of the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership Annual Report 2016/17.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Hertfordshire Waste Partnership (HWP) was formed in 1992 and brought together the ten borough and district councils in their capacity as waste collection authorities and the county council as the waste disposal authority. There are 50 similar partnerships across the UK.
- 3.2 The partnership is overseen by the HWP member group which is made up of elected councillors from each partner authority. Cllr John Gardner, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Environment & Regeneration is Stevenage Borough Council's representative on the group. The member group is supported by two senior officer groups - the Directors group and the Heads of Waste group.
- 3.3 The HWP has no authority over individual services but instead considers matters of strategic importance and opportunities for joint working. The partnership makes recommendations about long-term development of waste services in pursuit of targets detailed in the joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and the objectives and principles detailed in the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership Agreement signed in January 2012.

4.0 Hertfordshire Waste Partnership headlines - 2016/17

- 4.1 Collectively the HWP dealt with approximately 512,000 tonnes of local authority collected waste during 2016/17.
- 4.2 The partnership considered a number of strategic issues during 2016/17, most notably an initial assessment of the impact of Brexit and what it could mean from Hertfordshire's Waste Management Services.
- 4.3 Waste Aware is the public face of the HWP and is the brand used for the partnerships education and awareness activity to encourage changes in waste behaviours. The 2016/16 Waste Aware campaign began with the launch of a series of waste electrical and electronic equipment take back events across Hertfordshire. Funded by £91,000 of innovation fund monies from the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills, the scheme delivered 14 events from April to October and collected over 59 tonnes of electrical items.
- 4.4 Waste Aware placed particular focus on the use of social media during 2016/17 in view of the increasing use of platforms such as Twitter and Facebook by residents. Social media allows for



greater versatility and responsiveness in communicating with residents e.g. messages relating to disruption to services or impacts of severe weather can be distributed quickly and adapted as situations change.

- 4.5 The HWP provides access for new and expectant parents to a real nappy scheme with a view to reducing the amount of disposable nappies that are sent to landfill. Approximately 30 applications were received from Stevenage parents during 2016/17.
- 4.6 The HWP assumed responsibility for the Hertfordshire Fly Tipping Group in 2016 due to the connection with waste and environmental services already covered by the group. The aim of the group is to reduce and prevent fly tipping across Hertfordshire by bringing all relevant agencies and partners together. The group seeks to adopt a consistent and strategic approach across the region that supports frontline enforcement activity.
- 4.7 The annual report confirms details of the end destinations for the waste collected within the County. For Stevenage, this information relates to all general waste and paper collected. All other recyclable materials (plastic, cans and glass etc.) are managed and sent direct for processing by the Borough council.
- 4.8 An electronic copy of the annual report is appended to this note for members information and provides greater detail on the points raised above.
- 5.0 **Further Information**
- 5.1 Requests for further information or any queries relating to any item within the report should be directed to Craig Miller, Assistant Director, Stevenage Direct Services – craig.miller@stevenage.gov.uk or 01438 242587.