
Report to Enterprise and Environment Committee

Date of Meeting: 8 November 2012

Subject: Zero Waste Strategy

Report by: Head of Facilities Management

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. A new Zero Waste Strategy is required to address the legislative and policy changes introduced by Scotland's Zero Waste Plan and the Zero Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.
- 1.2. On 8th March 2012 Council approved a public consultation exercise on a Zero Waste Strategy 2012 - 2022: Main Issues Paper and this report presents a final Zero Waste Strategy 2012 - 22 for consideration by the Enterprise and Environment Committee.
- 1.3. A Clackmannanshire Zero Waste Strategy will support the Council's corporate priorities to; decrease biodegradable waste sent to landfill, improve recycling levels and deliver carbon reduction targets as defined in Taking Clackmannanshire Forward and directly links to the Single Outcome Agreement priority outcome that Clackmannanshire's environment is protected and improved.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Enterprise and Environment Committee approve Clackmannanshire's final Zero Waste Strategy for adoption by Council.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The strategy has been prepared following public consultation on the Zero Waste Strategy 2012-2022: Main Issues Paper. Consultation responses have been given due consideration and where appropriate incorporated into the strategy document: the Executive Summary is included as Appendix 1.
- 3.2. The legislative thrust, and therefore that of the strategy, is to support climate change policy, improve resource use and encourage economic benefit from waste reduction and resource use.
- 3.3. The strategy has been jointly developed with Falkirk Council and funded by Zero Waste Scotland as a template of good practice for other local authorities.

- 3.4. Clackmannanshire is already one of the top performing authorities in Scotland with best practice waste management operations and recycling results showing a recycling rate of 53.15% for the year to 31st March 2012.
- 3.5. The strategy focuses on the main challenges to improve from this position on the path to Zero Waste setting out policy objectives and actions to address the challenges through seven key issues:
1. The climate change impacts of waste
 2. Preventing waste and improving resource efficiency
 3. Providing leadership on moving to a zero waste society
 4. Optimising the Council's Waste Services for the future
 5. Maximising the economic benefit of a zero waste society
 6. Ensuring the correct resources and waste management infrastructure
 7. The management of non-recyclable waste.
- 3.6. Scotland's original Zero Waste Plan introduced a step change in the thinking and approach to waste within Scotland. Policy focus has moved away from addressing municipal waste through avoiding its landfill, to the more ambitious aim of moving towards a Zero Waste society.
- 3.7. Clackmannanshire's Zero Waste plan seeks to demonstrate what the Council will aspire to achieve in a Zero Waste society and maximise the environmental and economic benefits for the Clackmannanshire area. For example, the implementation of food waste collection will create 7 full-time jobs with Alloa Community Enterprises (ACE Recycling CiC Ltd.) operating as the Council's kerbside recycling box and food waste collector.
- 3.8. Clackmannanshire's Zero Waste Strategy is a high level policy reference that will in due course be followed by more detailed implementation and operational plans through the Council's business planning framework.
- 3.9. Translating the Zero Waste vision into action through Clackmannanshire's Zero Waste Strategy will be challenging. The behaviour of all members of our society will be influenced and tested by food waste collections, mandatory waste separation and rising costs. Equally, our services will have to adapt to the changes in collection systems and requirements of waste separation, both as waste collector and across the Council as waste producers ourselves.
- 3.10. The strategy sets out the strategic direction for waste and resource use within the Council's control for a period of up to 10 years and incorporates recent legislative and statutory guidance changes, most notably the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 that introduce amongst other measures:
- Mandatory food waste collection,
 - Landfill bans on specified materials,
 - Mandatory separated waste collections for commercial premises.
- 3.11. Operationally it will be essential for the Council to take the community with it on the Zero Waste journey by using continuous education and awareness

raising messages and offering assistance where needed to understand the reasons why climate change, resource use and waste are important to Clackmannanshire.

- 3.12. A significant quantity of the waste the Council collects is not currently captured by our recycling services because of a failure by householders to participate fully with the Council's recycling services. This situation must be addressed and improved upon to avoid future cost and to meet future targets and allow the Council to be compliant with landfill bans. Those that do not participate in recycling services drain our resources.
- 3.13. Considerable investment has been made by the Council to provide robust recycling services to meet recycling targets and reduce landfill costs. Ultimately it will be necessary to use some measure of enforcement to achieve maximum compliance with recycling services if the Council is to ensure its own compliance with its statutory duties and maximise service efficiency.
- 3.14. In day to day operational terms, where residual waste bins (green bins) repeatedly contain materials that should be recycled, and where householders are not prepared to acknowledge the advice and assistance offered by Waste Services, those bins will not be collected until the householder removes the recycling materials and places them in the correct recycling bin or box. Currently this costs Clackmannanshire Council £140,000 per annum in potential savings of missed recycling.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

- 4.1. The Zero Waste Strategy supports climate change policy and improvements in resource use and encourages local economic benefit from waste and resource use.
- 4.2. The Zero Waste Strategy supports the Council's corporate priorities as defined in Taking Clackmannanshire Forward and directly links to the Single Outcome Agreement priority outcome that Clackmannanshire's environment is protected and improved.

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

- 5.2. As a strategy there are no detailed costs or financial implications in the report. As known at this time the full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes ☒
- 5.3. An in principle grant award from the Zero Waste Scotland Food Waste Collection Capital grant programme of £428,976 to support the implementation of food waste collections has been received.
- 5.4. The net cost after application of grant for the implementation of food waste collection is expected to be £180,747 in year 2013/14 and £220,425 in year

2014/15 and has been identified in the service budget planning for these years.

- 5.5. Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report. Yes ☒

- 5.6. Staffing: There are no direct staffing resource implications in the report.

6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

- (1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	<input type="checkbox"/>
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are safer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- (2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

Not applicable

8.0 Equalities Impact

- 8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?
Yes ☐ No ☒

9.0 Legality

- 9.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

10.0 Appendices

- 10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

Appendix 1 - Zero Waste Strategy 2012-22 : Clackmannanshire Council - Executive Summary

11.0 Background Papers

- 11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ (please list the documents below) No ☐

i) Zero Waste Strategy 2012-2022 - Clackmannanshire Council

ii) Scotland's Zero Waste Plan

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/06/08092645/0>

iii) Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/02/09135833/0>


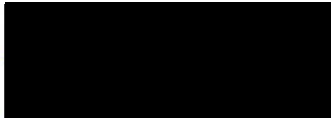
iv) EU Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC revised

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/environment/waste_management/ev0010_en.htm

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Zero Waste Strategy 2012 - 2022

Executive Summary

Clackmannanshire Council



October 2012



Executive Summary

Background

This Zero Waste Strategy replaces the Council's previous waste strategies which were the Forth Valley Area Waste Plan (2003) and the Forth Valley Strategic Outline Case (2006).

The Council has now implemented the majority of the actions agreed within these previous plans, however the two main drivers for a new strategy are the new obligations arising from the European Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC revised, the publication of Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (2010) and the supporting Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

Performance to date

Currently the Council is one of the top performers for recycling with a rate of 53.15% for the period April 2011 – March 2012¹. This compares to the Scottish local authority average of 38.2% for the same period.

The Council has successfully undertaken a range of waste prevention actions and in recent years the total waste arising has peaked. However the most recent waste analysis for the Council shows that a significant proportion of recyclates are still being placed in Green wheeled bins as non-recyclable waste and ending up in landfill. Whilst the Council has performed well it is clear more needs to be done to ensure recyclable material is appropriately separated for collection and onward recycling.

Scope of the new strategy

In line with the new national policy the new strategy will cover “all” waste collected and produced by the Council, rather than just municipal waste as in the previous plans. The strategy summarises current arrangements for waste management and sets out the actions that will be necessary for the Council to move towards the vision for a zero waste society over a period of up to 10 years. The strategy will be used to guide future decision-making by the Council and successful delivery will require the engagement of all key stakeholders. This includes the support of a wide range of Council services, as well as Community Planning Partners, the Scottish Government, Zero Waste Scotland, the community sector, businesses and householders.

The Council has become a top waste management performer in Scotland and a continuation of this high level of performance is expected by local communities and key stakeholders. However the next steps in the zero waste journey will be very challenging. Budget constraints, increasing costs associated with transport and landfill tax, and ensuring that householders and businesses continue to receive quality and efficient services regardless of their rural or urban location will present significant challenges.

¹ SEPA Waste Data – Local Authority Collected Waste reporting
http://www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/waste_data_reports/lacw_reporting/lacmw_summary_reports.aspx

The Main Issues to be addressed by the strategy

The policy objectives for each of the Main Issues identified in the Introduction to the strategy are set out below. These will be used by the Council to set the strategic direction for waste related issues and to help our communities progress along on the path towards a zero waste society.

The policy objectives for Climate Change are:

1. Minimise the environmental and climate change impacts from waste management activities.
2. Use the national Carbon Metric, Waste Hierarchy, and other relevant carbon accounting tools for decision making purposes.

The policy objectives for Waste Prevention are:

1. To champion waste minimisation within the community thereby reducing costs to the Council, households, and the business sector.
2. To work with the Scottish Government, Zero Waste Scotland and waste producers to reduce the amount of waste created.

The policy objectives for Leadership and Engagement are:

1. All future Council policies, strategies and plans should recognise the new zero waste national policy framework.
2. The Council should continue to maximise the opportunities to attract funding to further support zero waste projects.
3. The Council should continue to develop beneficial service opportunities with other councils, Zero Waste Scotland, as well as private and third sector partners.
4. The Council should encourage, and support, Community Planning Partners and other key organisations in the area to adopt Zero Waste principles.
5. The Council should lead by example by continuing to promote a Zero Waste approach and raise awareness of the need to address waste related issues within its communities.

The policy objectives for Optimising Services are:

1. To meet or exceed the targets set in Scotland's Zero Waste Plan.
2. To ensure that the Council's waste collection services deliver Best Value and the Best Practical Environmental Option to comply with the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and Kerbside Good Practice Guidance.
3. To maximise the capture rate, quality and value of material collected in line with the Waste Hierarchy.

The policy objectives for Maximising Economic Benefit from Zero Waste are:

1. Maximise the value of waste by minimising the amount of low value non-recyclable waste, and ensuring that waste is collected and reused/recycled/composted to achieve its highest economic value possible.
2. To seek to maximise, where appropriate, the local economic benefit from the Council's procurement processes for waste services and support the inclusion of recycled or reused content where practical in supplier specifications.
3. Encourage investment in Zero Waste opportunities in the Council area.

The policy objectives for Waste and Resource Management Infrastructure are:

1. To continue the Proximity and Self Sufficiency Principles applied to waste management within the Council area.
2. The Council's economic development and planning functions should prioritise waste prevention over reuse and recycling, wherever possible, to minimise overall infrastructure requirements.
3. To use the Council's influence, planning and economic development policies to encourage the right mix of waste infrastructure is developed to meet future targets, focusing upon high value reprocessing and recycling opportunities.

The policy objectives for Managing Non-Recyclable Waste (Residual Waste) are:

1. To minimise the amount of non-recyclable waste requiring treatment in line with the Waste Hierarchy.
2. To adopt a policy of zero waste going directly to landfill, i.e. any non-recyclable waste must be treated to extract any remaining value before the residual element is landfilled.
3. Continue the policy of a flexible approach to the procurement of residual waste treatment, utilising short to medium term contracts to ensure that the Council can respond to future changes in regulation and taxation.
4. To reduce the environmental impact from the Council's waste management legacy sites where practical and feasible.