

## Waste Regulations 2011

### Summary

The Waste Regulations 2011 requires that any organisation that collects waste to:

- Comply with the waste hierarchy
- Collect paper, metal, plastic and glass by separate collection, by January 2015, unless:
- It is not necessary to 'facilitate or improve recovery' and,
- It is not technically, environmentally and economically practicable to do so

This report and its annex describe the assessment carried into the waste collection service delivered by the Council to determine compliance with the Waste Regulations 2011.

**Portfolio - Community**

**Date Portfolio Holder signed off report – 21 October 2015**

**Wards Affected All**

### Recommendation

**The Executive is advised RESOLVE to**

- (i) **note that**
  - a. **the results of an assessment of the Council's waste collection service indicate that separate collections are not necessary to facilitate high quality recycling of the four key materials;**
  - b. **Separate collections are technically practicable, but neither economically nor environmentally practicable; and**
- (ii) **retain the current comingled recycling service.**

### 1. Resource Implications

- 1.1 The resource implications are included as part of the assessment. This shows that a separate waste collection service is £831,000 more expensive than a co-mingled waste collection service, similar to that which is delivered by the Council.

### 2. Key Issues

- 2.1 New regulations have come into force which aims to promote high quality recycling and move us towards becoming a recycling society.
- 2.2 The Waste England and Wales Regulations 2011 (as amended) (the 'Waste Regulations') require any organisation that collects waste to

- Comply with the waste hierarchy
  - Collect paper, metal, plastic and glass by separate collection, by January 2015, unless:
    - It is not necessary to ‘facilitate or improve recovery’ and,
    - It is not technically, environmentally and economically practicable to do so
- 2.3 The Waste Regulations are complicated and there is much uncertainty around how to comply with them. Defra have not provided any guidance, however a WRAP led consortium of local government networks have produced a ‘Route Map’ to help local authorities assess their compliance with the regulations. This has been described by the Environment Agency as good practice.
- 2.4 The Surrey Waste Partnership (SWP) has used the Route Map as a basis for assessing the compliance of each Waste Collection Authority (WCA) with the Waste Regulations. The compliance modelling was carried out by Surrey County Council using data supplied by participating Waste Collection Authorities. The report and findings for Surrey Heath is attached at Annex A to this report
- 2.5 The Route Map advocates using three key ‘tests’ to see if an authority is complying with the Waste Regulations. These are the:
- Necessity test – to test if each of the four key materials (glass, metal, paper and plastic) needs to be collected by separate collections in order to ‘facilitate or improve recovery’
  - Practicability (TEEP) test – to test if separate collections are technically, environmentally and economically practicable for each of the four key materials
  - Waste hierarchy test – to test if each material collected by the WCA is being managed as far up the waste hierarchy as possible
- 2.6 The results of this assessment indicate that separate collections are not necessary to facilitate high quality recycling of the four key materials. They are technically practicable, but neither economically nor environmentally practicable.
- 2.7 The current system delivered by the Council appears to be operating in accordance with the waste hierarchy. The report does not recommend any changes to the format of the current collection system to ensure compliance with the Waste Regulations.
- 2.8 The assessment has identified the following areas where the Council could influence changes in order to reduce the environmental impact of its current system:
- a. Sending more paper/card and plastic to UK and European markets rather than the Far East could reduce the environmental impacts of haulage by over 400,000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> e per year.

- b. sending more plastic to closed loop reprocessors could reduce the environmental impacts of managing the material by over 800,000 kg CO2 e per year

This will be explored by Surrey County Council, as the Waste Disposal Authority, when the contract changes in 2018.

### **3. Options**

3.1 The Executive has the following options:

- a. To note the results of the assessment.
- b. To retain the existing comingled recycling collection service or introduce a service where paper and card; glass; metal; and plastic is collected separately.

### **4. Proposals**

4.1 It is proposed that the Executive notes the assessment which has been carried out and to retain the current comingled recycling service.

### **5. Corporate Objectives And Key Priorities**

5.1 Key Priority 4 is to work with partners and the community to keep Surrey Heath a clean, green and safe place for the continued wellbeing of our Borough. An efficient waste and recycling service will contribute in meeting this priority.

5.2 Key Priority 3 is to secure the future of local services in Surrey Heath through a variety of strategies. The procurement of a joint waste contract in conjunction with other authorities will contribute towards meeting this priority by reducing waste collection costs which can be invested back into the provision of Council services.

### **6. Governance Issues**

6.1 The Surrey Waste Partnership (SWP) is made up of elected members representing Surrey County Council as the Waste Disposal Authority and the 11 Borough/District Council's (Waste Collection Authorities). The partnership is advised by a Waste Officers Group representing the same authorities and a number of Project Groups. Where Policy decisions are required such as adoption of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy the decision is taken by individual authorities.

### **7. Officer Comments**

7.1 The current waste service delivered by the Council has been extensively assessed and has been found to be compliant with the Waste Regulations 2011. The report will provide evidence of compliance if challenged by Defra.

<b>Annexes</b>	<b>Annex A. Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (amended) - Compliance assessment v3 Surrey Heath Borough Council</b>
<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (amended) - Compliance assessment technical Annex V2</b>
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**Consultations, Implications and Issues Addressed**

<b>Resources</b>	<b>Required</b>	<b>Consulted</b>
Revenue	✓	✓
Capital		
Human Resources		
Asset Management		
IT		
<b>Other Issues</b>	<b>Required</b>	<b>Consulted</b>
Corporate Objectives & Key Priorities	✓	✓
Policy Framework		
Legal		
Governance	✓	✓
Sustainability	✓	✓
Risk Management		
Equalities Impact Assessment	✓	✓
Community Safety		
Human Rights		
Consultation		
P R & Marketing	✓	✓

**Review Date:**

**Version:**