

Overview and Scrutiny Committee
8 February 2023

Municipal Resources and Waste Strategy

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To consider the analysis of the consultation findings and the proposed way forward in relation to the Municipal Resources and Waste Strategy prior to a decision being taken by Executive Board in March 2023.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to
- (a) consider the responses to the recommendations made by the Committee at its November 2022 meeting
 - (b) consider the responses, feedback and analysis from the consultation on the Strategy
 - (b) make recommendations to help shape the final proposals to be considered by Executive Board in March 2023.

3 Background information

- 3.1 At its meeting on 9 November 2022, the Committee heard from Antony Greener, Head of Service for District Heating and Waste Strategy, and Alvin Henry, Head of Commercial and Domestic Waste, on the development of the draft Municipal Resources and Waste Strategy for Nottingham, which was open for consultation at the time of the meeting.
- 3.2 The Committee was informed that in 2018 the Government published a national strategy for England that set out new requirements for local authorities, some of which have since been incorporated into legislation. These include that all councils must provide a food waste collection service; greater prescription in levels of uniformity of waste collection to help the public manage and dispose of their waste better; a national target to recycle 65% of waste by 2035 (in Nottingham currently 24/25% of waste is recycled); less than 10% of waste to be put into landfill by 2035 (in Nottingham, due to the Eastcroft incinerator, approx. 8% of waste goes to landfill); all avoidable plastic waste should be eliminated by 2042; and by 2050 there should be a zero-waste society with no avoidable waste. In addition to these national requirements, Nottingham has set its self the target of being carbon neutral by 2028 and waste management and disposal can make a considerable contribution to achieving this.

- 3.3 Consultation was carried out until 14 December 2022, and the feedback will be collated and used to inform the final Strategy, which will be taken to Executive Board in March 2023 for approval.
- 3.4 At the time of the meeting there had already been approximately 1500 responses to the consultation and the majority of those responses were about how changes will affect individuals and what citizens will need to do differently.
- 3.5 As a result of the information provided, the Committee resolved to:
- (a) recommend that every effort is made to ensure that the consultation findings are representative of all communities across the City and that additional effort is made to engage with those who are often under-represented in consultation responses but who will be affected by the changes;
 - (b) respond to the consultation on the Municipal Resources and Waste Strategy with the following comments:
 - (i) changes to waste collection must be accompanied by education and communication to residents and partners, and there needs to be sufficient resources allocated to this
 - (ii) the Council should take opportunities to communicate to Government that less efficient local authorities do not require lower levels of funding and, in some cases, the opposite may be the case
 - (iii) smaller residual waste bins are not necessarily desirable and could have unintended consequences such as an increase in contamination
 - (iv) thorough consideration must be given to the needs of all the different communities who live in the City so that there is a waste collection system(s) that works for everyone, including transient populations, people living in flats, people with disabilities or mobility issues etc. This consideration should be informed by learning from the pilot sites.
 - (v) consideration should be given to penalties for residents who persistently do not engage in the waste collection arrangements
 - (c) request that information on the findings of the pilot studies is provided to the Committee.
- 3.6 Now that the consultation has concluded, this is an opportunity for the Committee to be involved in pre-decision scrutiny by considering the robustness of the consultation carried out, and making recommendations for the Executive Board to consider before it makes a decision on the proposed Strategy.
- 3.7 The relevant Portfolio Holder and colleagues will be in attendance at the meeting to present proposals and answer queries.

3.8 A report is attached for the committee to consider, and a summary and analysis of the consultation responses will be circulated separately.

4 List of attached information

4.1 Report.

4.2 Consultation responses and analysis – to follow.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None.

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 Overview and Scrutiny report and minutes from 9 November 2022.

7 Wards affected

7.1 All.

8 Contact information

8.1 Laura Wilson
Senior Governance Officer
laura.wilson@nottinghamvity.gov.uk
0115 8764301