

CABINET
2 NOVEMBER 2017**JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**
UPDATE

Relevant Cabinet Member

Mr T Miller

Relevant Officer

Director of Economy and Infrastructure

Recommendation

1. **The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Environment recommends that Cabinet approves the Addendum to the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) for Herefordshire and Worcestershire 2004 – 2034 as set out in Appendix 1.**

Why is this decision important?

2. An update to the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) is required to reflect the changes in national policy, local provision and projections for future demand that have occurred since the Strategy was originally adopted.

Background

3. The JMWMS for Herefordshire and Worcestershire was first published in 2004 and covers the period 2004 to 2034 (the current headline document is included at Appendix 2). It is a joint strategy across the six Worcestershire district councils, Worcestershire County Council and Herefordshire Council (reflecting the partnership across Worcestershire and Herefordshire in relation to a shared waste disposal service).
4. The JMWMS underwent a complete review in 2009 to reflect significant developments in national waste policy and required changes to our waste management service. The JMWMS was adopted by all partner authorities in 2009 and in 2011 when it was refreshed to include an updated residual waste options appraisal which took into account the site location for the proposed Energy from Waste (EfW) facility (this was not known in 2009).
5. The Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003 requires two tier authorities to create, adopt and review their joint municipal waste management strategy.

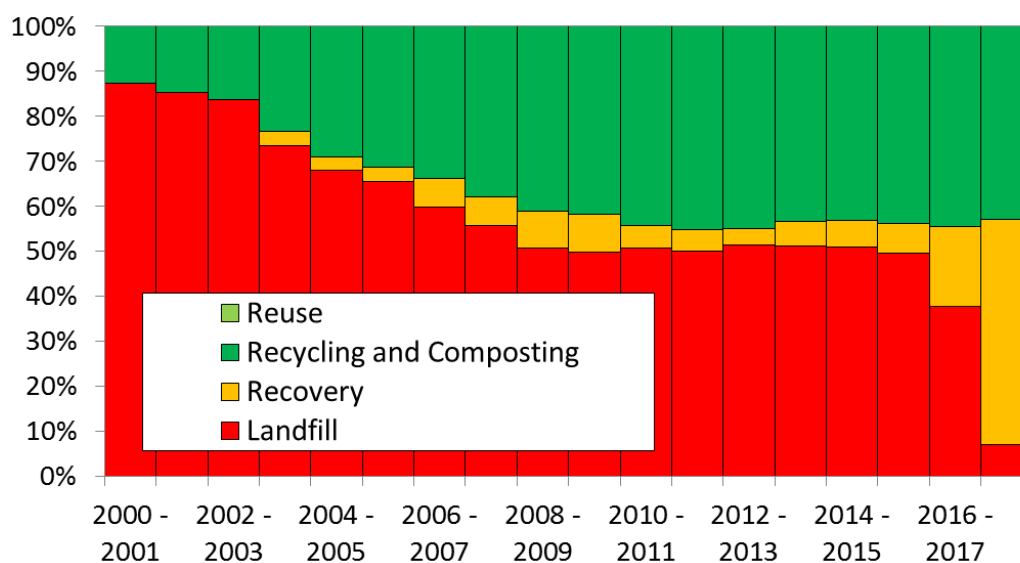
6. An Addendum has been produced (**Appendix 1**) to update the Strategy on achievements and to ensure that it remains relevant and fit for purpose.
7. The existing Strategy needs to be amended to reflect the changes in national policy, local provision and projections for future demand that have occurred since the current Strategy was adopted.
8. Key objectives of the adopted JMWMS were as follows:
 - a) To manage waste in line with the Waste Hierarchy, ensuring that waste is prevented wherever possible first before considering Re-use, Recycling/Composting, Energy Recovery and finally Safe disposal to landfill.
 - b) For all authorities to collect the same materials for recycling through a commingled collection system whilst restricting frequency or container capacity to prevent waste and increase recycling.
 - c) To develop alternative waste treatment solutions to promote sustainable waste management, balancing environmental, social and economic impacts.
9. In 2014 Herefordshire Council and Worcestershire County Council agreed a variation to the waste disposal service with their contractor, Mercia Waste Management, to design, build and operate a 200,000 tonne per annum EfW facility. This facility became fully operational in March 2017 and produces enough electricity to power 32,000 homes.

Review and Updates

10. An Addendum to the JMWMS strategy has been produced to reflect these achievements, including the following updates and information:
11. Information on changes to national waste management policy, being the introduction of the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011, which transposed much of the EU Waste Framework Directive into UK law, which had the following impact on services:
 - Requiring waste producers to apply the Waste Management Hierarchy where waste prevention is highest priority and disposal to landfill is lowest. The JMWMS for Herefordshire and Worcestershire uses the Waste Hierarchy as one of its fundamental Principles (Principle 2).
 - Requiring councils to undertake an assessment to demonstrate how the recycling service they provide is Technically, Environmentally or Economically Practicable (TEEP) in collecting high quality waste paper, metal, plastic and glass suitable for recycling. Wychavon District Council led on the production of a TEEP assessment across the partner councils and this is included at **Appendix 3**.
12. An update of waste management data including waste growth predictions which are expected to continue to grow proportionately to growth in household numbers.
13. An update on recycling, recovery and disposal performance which in respect of recycling has seen little change in performance since the 2011 refresh due to constraints on resources. However significant improvement in recovery and disposal

performance is predicted following the recent opening of the new EfW facility and performance since 2000 is illustrated in the figure below:

Municipal Waste disposal routes since 2000/2001



14. Due to there being no new objectives or policy at a national level, a light touch approach has been taken in reviewing the JMWMS focusing on refreshing the waste growth and performance data. Advice from an experienced and qualified waste management consultant, commissioned by Worcestershire County Council on behalf of the partnership, supported this approach and informed the refresh.
15. The Addendum (see **Appendix 1**) does not attempt to set new objectives or policy, and should be read in conjunction with the existing JMWMS (found on Worcestershire County Council's website: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/4156/waste_strategy)
16. A summary of progress to date in achieving the targets set out in the strategy is included at **Appendix 4**.
17. The Strategic Waste Management Board (SWMB), consisting of senior officers and members, including the County Council Cabinet Member for Environment, have been consulted and updated throughout the review process. A workshop was carried out where Members and officers provided the following feedback which has been reflected in the Addendum to the JMWMS:
 - a) None of the councils have any plans to change their waste collection regime
 - b) Any measure of the impact of council waste management on climate change should be simple and relate only to waste disposal services
 - c) Recognition that the 50% recycling target will be difficult to achieve without introducing separate food waste collection or free garden waste collection
 - d) Consensus that the existing 50% recycling target should be retained but the difficulties in achieving the target should be explained in the review
 - e) Agreement that a 90% diversion from landfill target was feasible for 2030.

18. The six Worcestershire district councils and Herefordshire Council are all currently progressing the adoption of this addendum to the JMWMS via their local processes.
19. The next review of the JMWMS will be in 2022 or earlier if a significant change is required, for example due to change in national policy.

Legal, Financial and HR Implications

20. There are no legal, financial or HR implications arising from the recommendations. The addendum does not attempt to set new objectives or policy.

Privacy and Public Health Impact Assessment

21. There are no particular privacy or public health impacts arising directly from this report.

Equality and Diversity Implications

22. An Equality Relevance Screening has been completed in respect of these recommendations. The screening did not identify any potential Equality considerations requiring further consideration during implementation.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1: Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy – Addendum - attached

Appendix 2: Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy – Headline document

Appendix 3: Technically, Environmentally or Economically Practicable (TEEP) Assessment

Appendix 4: A summary of progress to date in achieving the targets set out in the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy

Appendices 2 - 4 are available on-line at www.worcestershire.gov.uk

Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this report

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Economy and Infrastructure) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Cabinet decision adopting the First Review of the JMWMS in September 2009:
<http://public.worcestershire.gov.uk/web/home/DS/Documents/Committees,%20Panels%20and%20Reviews/Cabinet/Minutes%202009/Thursday,%2017%20September%202009.pdf>