



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PANEL

9:30am to 10:20am

24 July 2013

Present: Councillors Stonard (chair), Grahame (substituting for Carlo), Bremner, Lubbock, Kendrick and Stammers

Apologies: Councillors Carlo (Grahame substituting) and Gihawi

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 05 June 2013.

3. WASTE AND RECYCLING UPDATE – JULY 2013

The Environmental service development manager introduced the report. The Head of citywide services reported that the basics of the new Materials Recycling Facility contract had been agreed with the Norfolk waste partnership and the final council would take their contract to their September cabinet meeting. He said that planning permission would need to be approved for expansion of the existing site at Costessey which meant that the new service would start in October 2014. The collection of glass would now be included with all other recyclables, decreasing costs and increasing recycling rates. A company board made up of 7 directors with three from Norse, one from Norfolk County Council and three chosen from the seven district councils. In addition there will be a liaison board set up with representatives from Norse, Norfolk County council and all seven district authorities.

In response to a question from a member, the environmental service development manager confirmed that his team liaise with landlords and letting agents when undertaking the student door knocking scheme. He said that in previous years, the team had found that more students were in their off campus accommodation in early October rather than September. The head of citywide services added that his team do a lot of work with the university to disseminate information and work closely with the student union as well as landlords.

In reply to a member, the environmental service development manager explained that customer satisfaction surveys had previously been undertaken throughout the year with results collated in March. The system had changed so that weekly surveys are undertaken with four supervisors handing out 25 questionnaires at random each week. He explained that if he was made aware of a problem in a particular area, this area would be targeted with surveys. An online survey was also available for any customer to complete.

The head of citywide services said that business food waste was not something that the council would consider collecting at this time as this may prove too costly with private companies able to undercut the council. He explained that Norfolk county council have a business unit who are able to advise businesses on the best way to dispose of their trade waste. He said that collected food waste was sent to a site in Marsham where it is composted and resold. A gate fee of £55 per ton is payable but the council receive a recycling credit of £76 for each ton. The higher rate of recycling credits for food waste is paid to the city council by Norfolk county council as long as the overall tonnage of household waste collected is not increased.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) note the report,
- (2) ask the environmental service development manager to circulate a list of schools on the food waste scheme in the Norwich area to members,
- (3) include a map of where recycled goods are sent in the next update; and
- (4) permanently include residual waste figures in the reporting.

CHAIR