

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Cabinet

Date: 13/01/2024

Subject: Joint Waste Strategy

Report of: Councillor Sharon Holder, Cabinet Member for Public Realm

Report author: Annie Baker, Assistant Director Street Environment Services

Responsible Director: Bram Kainth, Executive Director of Place

SUMMARY

A Joint Waste Strategy has been developed by the Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA, our Waste Disposal Authority) and its four constituent Waste Collection Authorities (the London Boroughs of Hammersmith and Fulham, Lambeth, Wandsworth and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea). The Joint Waste Strategy is a statutory requirement for the Waste Disposal Authority and Waste Collection Authorities.

Following input from all the boroughs and agreement from the WRWA's Committee in June, a Draft Strategy document went out for formal consultation this autumn and is now being submitted for adoption by each of the constituent boroughs and the WRWA.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that Cabinet approves the adoption of the Joint Waste Management Strategy as set out in the Final Draft version appended to this report.
 2. It is recommended that, if any further changes are requested to the draft document (for example by another borough or the Greater London Authority), the decision as to whether to accept these should be delegated to the Executive Director of Place in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Realm.
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Wards Affected: All

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Corporate Plan and the H&F Values
Building shared prosperity	The Joint Municipal Waste Strategy seeks to maximise social value benefits through waste and resource

	management, by encouraging upskilling and the creation of new job opportunities within the sector.
Creating a compassionate and inclusive council	The strategy's actions include undertaking education activities to support residents to reduce their waste and increase what can otherwise be recycled or composted from the residual waste stream.
Doing things with local residents, not to them	The strategy aims to support the boroughs to provide easy-to-use and clearly defined services, that respond to local resident needs, and encourage participation.
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	The strategy aims to maximise the value from the existing waste treatment contract through increased capture of re-useable and recyclable material. In addition it sets out its aim to demonstrate to residents and businesses the economic value in preventing/minimising waste, repairing items and buying reused through signposting to local resources including the reuse workshop located at Smugglers Way. Actions in the strategy include identifying opportunities to minimise waste and extract more recyclable material from kerbside collections, bulky waste, street cleansing waste and fly tipped materials; these will reduce our waste disposal costs.
Taking pride in H&F	The Joint Municipal Waste Strategy supports the work of boroughs to maintain clean streets and manage waste arisings in the most sustainable and efficient way.
Rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency	The strategy includes identifying key areas of focus to reduce emissions through the development of a Net Zero action plan and exploring options to transition to low carbon fuels and electricity sources where infrastructure allows.

Financial Impact

The proposed Joint Waste Management Strategy is a joint agreement of Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA) and its four partner boroughs (H&F, LB Wandsworth, LB Lambeth and RB Kensington & Chelsea). The overarching aim of

the strategy is to work in partnership to prevent waste, enhance resource efficiency and minimise greenhouse gas emissions. It is not expected that there will be any new immediate financial implications arising from adopting the proposed strategy.

Any financial implications resulting from legislative changes in this area (such as the introduction of Extended Producer Responsibility for waste packaging and Deposit Return Scheme for drinks cans and plastic bottles), will be considered and included in the Council's budget as appropriate as Government plans for implementation become clearer. It should also be noted that the unit cost of residual waste processing is expected to increase from 2028, when waste incinerators are expected to be included in the UK Emissions Trading Scheme. In readiness for this, and to mitigate any cost increase as far as possible, H&F and the other partner boroughs will need to work with WRWA to reduce residual waste arisings as far as possible. This will also need to be factored into the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The planned actions to reduce residual waste tonnages and increase recycling will, if successful, lead to cost savings for the Council as it is currently much cheaper to process a tonne of recycling than it is to process a tonne of residual waste. In H&F (based on current waste tonnages), every 1% of tonnage transferred from residual waste to recycling would save H&F approximately £68,000 per annum.

Kellie Gooch, Head of Finance (Place), 22 November 2024.

Verified by Andre Mark, Head of Finance (Strategic Planning and Investment), 25 November 2024.

Legal Implications

Waste authorities for a two-tier area are obliged under the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003 to put in place a strategy for the management of waste. The Council is in a two-tier area. It and the other three constituent authorities which make up the Western Riverside Waste Authority are the waste collection authorities for the area and the WRWA is the waste disposal authority.

These arrangements were established under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. There have been significant legislative changes in relation to the collection and disposal of waste over the last few years and the strategy takes account of these changes.

Prior to the adoption of the strategy the authorities must undertake such consultation as they consider appropriate. The Council has undertaken consultation in accordance with these requirements and the outcome of the consultation has been taken into account in formulating the strategy.

The waste management strategy appended to the report is in compliance with the Council's statutory requirements.

John Sharland, Legal services 22 November 2024.

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Proposals and Analysis of Options

1. The Joint Waste Strategy has been developed by the Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA, our Waste Disposal Authority) and its four constituent Waste Collection Authorities that consist of LBHF, Lambeth, Wandsworth and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.
2. A Joint Waste Strategy is a statutory requirement for the Waste Disposal Authority and Waste Collection Authorities. The work on this strategy began in 2023. The strategy has been developed with the involvement of officers and Members from LBHF alongside the other constituent authorities.
3. Following input from all four Waste Collection Authorities, and with agreement from the WRWA's Committee in June, the Draft Strategy went out for formal public consultation this autumn and is now being submitted for adoption by each of the constituent boroughs and WRWA.
4. The strategy supports the broad objectives of all four of the boroughs, with nine strategic themes as follows:
 - Customer Service
 - Low Carbon
 - Financial Considerations
 - Waste Prevention
 - Flexibility
 - Deliverability
 - Increased Recycling
 - Meeting Government Changes
 - Collaboration
5. The public consultation was conducted over a six-week period, from Monday 2nd September to Monday 14th October 2024. The consultation involved a range of methods to collect feedback from residents, businesses, and organisations in the Western Riverside area including:
 - An online Survey - open to residents and businesses
 - Focus Groups – one per Borough, with an additional focus group with mixed participants
 - Engagement with statutory stakeholders – a number of sessions with the GLA to explain the development of our modelling and to provide an overview of the proposed draft strategy
6. The consultation was publicised in the following ways:

- WRWA - Website news updates, dedicated strategy webpage, social media (Next door, X), and via the Smugglers Way Household Waste Recycling Centre (posters, digital screen and flyers in addition to mentions by staff when answering enquiries)
 - Partner Authorities - Website news updates, consultation pages, social media (Facebook, X, Instagram, Next door, LinkedIn), physical and digital posters and flyers in public locations including libraries
 - Emails promoting the consultation to community groups and Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)
7. A total of 403 responses were received. The detailed responses have been submitted to the WRWA December Committee and the outcome is a recommendation that the Draft Strategy should be amended to include stretch targets for recycling within the strategy for 2030 for Local Authority Collected Waste and for Household Waste for the WRWA as a whole as follows:
- Work towards a target of recycling 35% of Local Authority Collected Waste by 2030, with a **stretch target of 38% by 2030** and 50% by 2040.
 - Work towards a target of recycling 30% Household Waste by 2030, with a **stretch target of 33% by 2030** and 45% by 2040
8. Each constituent authority is now considering the formal adoption of the Joint Municipal Waste Strategy and the WRWA is also awaiting feedback from the Greater London Authority. Should any further feedback result in any proposed changes to the strategy, it is recommended that the decision as to whether to accept these should be delegated to the Strategic Director in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Public Realm.

Reasons for Decision

9. A Joint Waste Strategy is a statutory requirement for the Waste Disposal Authority and Waste Collection Authorities including the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. The Strategy has been developed with input from all of the Waste Collection Authorities and has been subject to public consultation. It is therefore recommended that this strategy be adopted by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

Equality Implications

10. An Equality Impact Assessment has been provided as part of the development of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy work and is appended to this report.

Risk Management Implications

11. There are no identified risks.

Jules Binney, Risk and assurance manager, 20 November 2024.

Climate and Ecological Emergency Implications

12. The Joint Waste Strategy with its strategic themes is likely to contribute positively to achieving the council's Climate Change objectives and actions. The issues and solutions sought are likely to be intrinsically linked to reducing waste and lowering carbon.
13. In addition, the joint strategy should support and enable people to make sustainable choices and gain new skills to reduce goods and materials that are thrown away through reuse, repair and recycling. This can be facilitated through WRWA's reuse workshop, ReWork.

Hinesh Mehta, Assistant director of climate change, 22 November 2024.

Consultation

14. A public formal consultation exercise has been undertaken as reported to the WRWA Committee.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Joint Municipal Waste Strategy
Appendix 2 – Equality Impact Assessment - EqIA