

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Closed projects

Food waste prevention project group

The educational food waste and nutrition packs have been available to the public for several months now. Below is a list of the works to disseminate the packs in each council's areas. It is recommended to Members that they enquire to their Waste Manager about their local dissemination to ensure they are receiving the greatest benefit from the packs, to tackle local food waste levels.

Councils;

- Available to download on SWP and SCC website,
- Some councils have emailed the link to schools directly or via eco schools newsletter,
- Some councils have discussed the packs at Eco Schools meetings'
- Showcased at local events, such as ESBC's Autumn festival and Gardening festival or inclusion by SBC in the 'Know your Food Labels/Cooking for One' courses organised by Stafford & Rural Homes for their tenants.

Partners;

- Entrust have incorporated it within their 'Beyond the Kitchen' initiative with schools which is a range of educational toolkits on nutrition, waste, wellbeing and basic cookery, being delivered at over 400 sites.
- Awaiting confirmation of inclusion in adult and family learning courses, along with education delivered by SoTCC City Catering for schools.

Dry recyclables processing contract procurement

The processing contract is now well underway and no longer requires SWP input as initial teething issues have been rectified. SWP support remains available if required.

On-going projects

Four Ashes joint campaign

Following meetings between the councils' working group and Veolia, we are awaiting progress from Veolia as the project lead. Nothing has been progressed for several months despite regular chasing.

CCDC collection contract

CCDC are currently procuring a waste collection contract, which has been open to market during the summer. The council wish to submit an in house bid using their own Waste Officers, therefore meaning they can have no part in the procurement process. CCDC have hired the SWP Manager as a

third party impartial technical officer for the creation of the ITT questionnaire and subsequent evaluation (along with the Waste Officer from SSDC). Evaluation is underway and the contract will be awarded shortly.

This work is undertaken on a consultancy basis for which CCDC are paying for the services of the SWP Manager at a day rate (agreed at SWOG by all councils – consultancy is also open to other council at the same rate if requested, provided the workload does not exceed set parameters affecting the partnership work). Upon project completion, CCDC will be invoiced and the money will go into the SWP pot for use on future joint projects.

Holistic savings for Staffordshire

Following the last JWMB, the SWP Manager has been collating the required data for a baseline costings review, which will be provided at October's JWMB as papers. The information will include full service costs of all waste services across the area, comparisons to 2007 data, and an up to date contract register. These papers will also be submitted to Chief Executive's Group for information.

The SWP Manager also attended the September Chief Executive's Group to provide technical support to their waste discussions and provided impartial feedback on the drafted Memorandum of Understanding.

SWP applied for a grant of £20,000 from the Local Government Association (LGA) to assist with this work, and was successful in its bid. The funding has now been placed in the SWP account ready for use (before March 2016). A condition of the funding is to provide information to the LGA on the project works to ensure the money has been spent to suitably move the authorities forward to greater service and financial efficiencies.

It is expected that after the October JWMB, a direction of travel will have been agreed and a suitable options appraisal will be conducted with outside support (funded by the LGA grant).

New projects

Love your bin man

'Love your bin man' is a SSDC campaign to humanise the waste operations staff to raise health and safety awareness of the dangers our staff face when collecting waste, such as dangerous driving by the public. Following the work already conducted by SSDC, a template has been created to allow other councils to follow the same model.

WEEE funding application

BIS have launched a new WEEE funding scheme offering up to £100,000 for a successful partnering bid. SWP will work with SCC to co-ordinate a suitable application – at present, it is expected that the bid will comprise a push of existing kerbside WEEE collections and assistance to create new kerbside WEEE collections, for those interested councils.

This will further support the SCC led social media project on WEEE reuse at the Rugeley reuse shop (at the HWRC) which received funding in a previous round of applications several months ago.

CPC training collaborations

Following recent discussions at TOG, there are plans to investigate the potential of collaborative driver training for all SWP councils, to achieve economies of scale (therefore reducing costs) and to offer greater flexibility in the logistics of mandatory training. There are several key options available at a variety of costs – a full options appraisal will be drafted with recommendations, before requesting approval from councils for official adopting.