

Cambridge City Council

Environment and Waste Portfolio Plan 2014-15

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Jean Swanson

Lead Officer: Jas Lally

Email address: jas.lally@cambridge.gov.uk

Phone number: 01223 458572

Introduction

This portfolio plan details the strategic direction for a number of frontline statutory services relating to environment and waste including; refuse collection, recycling, cleanliness of the city, dogs, food safety, health and safety at work, noise, air and land pollution.

Context

The City generally has very good local environmental quality that is valued by residents and visitors alike. The Council operates a number of services that maintain and enhance that quality alongside others that protect individuals from unwarranted pollution and safety whilst at work or from the food they eat

The Refuse and Environment service has been working strategically to reach a 50% recycling rate by providing improved and a wider range of recycling services across the city. There will be a need to continue to work formally and informally with other councils and agencies to ensure we maximise the benefits and savings from joint working and procurement as well as ensuring we operate in accordance with best practice. This includes future markets for waste collected.

Environmental health service will be undergoing a review to deliver services differently such as a mutual company or a shared service. Either option will require reduction of costs and/or increased income streams.

Maintaining high standards of street cleanliness throughout the city continues to be a key priority for the Council and residents. A combination of the vibrant city centre economy and the large numbers of tourists that visit Cambridge throughout the year places particular pressure on street cleansing services. As new properties are completed and new highways adopted in the growth sites, it will also be important to ensure that street cleansing services in new neighbourhoods are provided to the same standards as existing areas of the city.

The following service divisions will contribute to the achievement of this Plan's Objectives:

Streets and open spaces
Refuse and Environment
Customer Services Centre

Vision Statements applicable to this portfolio

A city which draws inspiration from its iconic historic centre and achieves a sense of place in all of its parts with generous urban open spaces and well- designed buildings

A city where people behave with consideration for others and where harm and nuisance are confronted wherever possible without constraining the lives of all

A city in the forefront of low carbon living and minimising its impact on the environment from waste and pollution

A city which celebrates its diversity, unites in its priority for the disadvantaged and strives for shared community wellbeing

Strategic Objectives 2014-2015

Vision Statement 1:	A city in the forefront of low carbon living and minimising its impact on the environment from waste and pollution
Strategic Objective 1:	Make the most of opportunities to use the waste generated within the City as a resource
By March 2015 we will have:	<p>EW 1.1 Continued with a programme of activities to increase the proportion of waste that is recycled within the City including the roll out of recycling litter bins.</p> <p>EW 1.2 Introduced a Commercial food waste service</p> <p>EW 1.3 Successfully negotiated a joint Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) contract with RECAP members.</p> <p>EW 1.4 Encourage further work by recycling champions and develop legacy arrangements for their future support</p>
Lead Officer:	Jas Lally – Head of Refuse & Environment
Performance Measures:	<p>EW1.1 Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting increased from a baseline of 43.3% in 2012/13 to 44% in 2013/14 to a target of 44.5% in 2014/15</p> <p>Kilograms of residual household waste per household reduced from the baseline of 498 kg in 2012/13 to 495 kg in 2013/14 to a target of 492 kg in 2014/15</p> <p>EW1.2 Increase the percentage of commercial waste recycled by 2%.</p> <p>EW1.3 Appoint a contractor for recycling material by June 2014</p> <p>EW1.4 Future support mechanism introduced for recycling champions by March 2015.</p>

Delivery Risks:	EW 1.1 – No change in behaviour of residents who do not recycle EW 1.2 – Lack of interest by businesses to use food waste service EW 1.3 - Conflicting partnership demands and resources EW 1.4 - Recycling champion scheme ceases
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Vision Statement 2:	A city with a thriving local economy that benefits the whole community and builds on its global pre-eminence in learning and discovery A city where people behave with consideration for others and where harm and nuisance are confronted wherever possible without constraining the lives of all
Strategic Objective 2:	Implementation of budget changes within basic services
By March 2015 we will have:	EW 2.1 Reduce red – tape burdens placed on businesses by signposting and providing support and training on compliance with environmental health legislation EW 2.2 Reviewed Environmental Health Service EW 2.3 Developed a support process for identified groups needing financial assistance for pest control EW 2.4 Complete a business case to move waste operations from Mill Road to a joint facility at Waterbeach and if viable gained approval.
Lead Officer:	Jas Lally – Head of Refuse and Environment
Performance Measures:	EW 2.1- Number of food premises inspected and improvements made to their overall rating since previously inspected – figures contained within the Business Regulation plan 2014/15

	EW 2.2 Reduce the direct cost of the service per household from 2013/14 baseline EW 2.3 Scheme for financial assistance agreed by July 2014 EW 2.4 Business case approved by members by March 2015
Delivery Risks	EW 2.1 High turnover of businesses EW 2.2 Insufficient income from potential clients EW 2.3 Balance of take up of scheme EW 2.4 Conflicting partnership demands and resources

Vision Statement 3:	<p>A city which celebrates its diversity, unites in its priority for the disadvantaged and strives for shared community wellbeing</p> <p>A city in the forefront of low carbon living and minimising its impact on the environment from waste and pollution</p> <p>A city which draws inspiration from its iconic historic centre and achieves a sense of place in all of its parts with generous urban open spaces and well- designed buildings</p>
Strategic Objective 3:	Continuous Improvement of Local Environmental Quality within the City
By March 2015 we will have:	<p>SoS 3.1 Completed refurbishment of the Lion Yard and Silver Street Toilets</p> <p>SoS 3.2 Supported local community groups with litter and recycling clear up campaigns thus enhancing the urban and rural environment</p> <p>SoS 3.3 Improved liaison and carried out work with the Police and PCSO's with regards environmental enforcement activity</p> <p>SoS 3.4 Continued replacement programme of highway litter and recycling bins</p> <p>SoS 3.5 Worked with the County Council to develop a sustainable policy on highway grass cutting in the City</p> <p>SoS 3.6 Explored the possibility of an in-house team tendering for the provision of the Building Cleaning Services</p>

Lead Officer:	Adrian Ash Interim Head of Streets & Open Spaces
Performance Measures:	<p>SoS 3.1 Completed refurbishment of toilets and open to the public. Project within timescale and budget</p> <p>SoS 3.2 Individual and community group attendance and tonnage of material collected</p> <p>SoS 3.3 Successful joint liaison and partnership working carried out</p> <p>SoS 3.4 EPA Code of Practice / Increased Recycling tonnage of material collected</p> <p>SoS 3.5 Regular engagement to provide a positive outcome</p> <p>SoS 3.6 Acceptable conclusion reached</p>
Delivery Risks	<p>SoS 3.1 Sufficient funding to deliver programme</p> <p>SoS 3.2 Poor weather at time of event, low community participation</p> <p>SoS 3.3 Availability of external resource / competing priorities</p> <p>SoS 3.4 Delays with procurement process and external factors</p> <p>SoS 3.5 Engagement of County Council in the process</p> <p>SoS 3.6 Issues of complexity</p>

Background Information: None