

OXFORDSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

23 October 2009

Food and Garden Waste Treatment Update

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update the OWP on progress on the food waste project.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Food Waste Treatment contract has now been signed and the project has moved to an implementation stage. Agrivert Ltd is the successful company with their variant bid to provide three food waste recycling plants within the County. Agrivert have now reached financial close with their funders, mitigating the last major risk to the project.
- 2.2 Collections started in South Oxfordshire on 8 June 2009 with over 2,000 tonnes of food waste diverted from landfill in the first four months. Feedback from all parties involved is positive with the collections going well, and the food waste being mostly free of contaminants. Cherwell will be rolling out their fortnightly food and green waste collection from 22nd October, with Oxford City planning to follow with their collection scheme in November. Interim arrangements are in place for the treatment of food and green waste from these schemes.
- 2.3 At the OWP meeting in July, all parties agreed to sign the written agreement between the County and Districts regarding the delivery of food waste and provision of facilities. This document confirms each party's commitment to delivery of food waste, and acknowledges the implications of any deviation from these plans to either party.
- 2.4 The first food waste treatment plant in Oxfordshire will be the In Vessel Composting plant in Ardley, where construction has started and opening is anticipated for January 2010. The second plant will be the Anaerobic Digester at Cassington, which is planned to open in July 2010. The third reception point for food waste will be Crowmarsh from July 2011.

3 Financial, Risk and Staff Implications

- 3.1 As previously reported, shared commitment to this project is important as the contract requires the County Council to deliver minimum tonnages of food and food and garden waste to the facilities, with penalty payments incurred for failure to meet these.

A food waste agreement has been drawn up to demonstrate the Partnership's commitment to the initiative.

4 Areas Affected

- 4.1 County wide

5 Effect on Strategic Policies

- 5.1 The procurement of food waste processing capacity is in accordance with policy 6 of the

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Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, to increase recycling and composting.

6 Options or Alternatives

6.1 N/A

7 Recommendations

7.1 To note and support the progress made on the procurement of the food waste treatment contract.

7.2 That Members of the OWP confirm they have all signed the WDA/WCA food waste agreement

8 Reasons for Recommendations

8.1 To demonstrate OWP support for the treatment of food waste within Oxfordshire.

9 Contact Officer

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