

Waste and Recycling Advisory Group

17 November 2017

Minutes of this meeting

1. Introduction and welcome

The group's chair Cllr Peter Craig from South Lanarkshire Council welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Attendance and apologies

See attached.

3. Minutes of previous meeting held on 15 September 2017

The minutes were deemed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

5. Stirling Council's Waste Delivery Model

Lindsey Hepburn of Stirling Council attended to deliver a presentation on their redesign of Waste services.

With £6.9m of savings to be realised in 2016/17, the Council redesigned their Waste Services with extensive public engagements and consultations from July 2015 to February 2016 (with 1750 individuals and groups taking part). The changed system was approved in February 2016, with a community information programme running between June and September 2016, and the full service being rolled out between Autumn and Winter 2016.

The system needed to change for a number of reasons including: the need to re-align with other local authorities, the need to meet Scottish Government targets, complying with the Household Recycling Charter, the limited flexibility and high vehicle downtime provided by the ageing fleet, the current process being too labour intensive and the need to save £25m over 5 years.

The collection system in pre-2016 and the improved system are both detailed in the tables below.

Pre-2016 Waste Collection Service					
Materials Stream	Cardboard	Food Waste	Garden Waste	Landfill Waste	Glass Bottles, Jars, Tins, Cans, Paper, Plastic Bottles,

					Cartons, WEEE, Batteries
Container	55 Litre Brown Box	25 Litre Green Food Caddy	Brown 240 Litre Wheeled Bin	Grey 240 Litre Wheeled Bin	55 Litre Blue Box and Blue Bag
Collection Vehicle Type	Urban Artic	Urban Artic	Hufferman Side Loader	Hufferman Side Loader	Urban Artic
Collection Frequency	Weekly	Weekly	2 Weekly	2 Weekly	Weekly

Improved Waste Collection Service					
Materials Stream	Plastic bottles, pots, tubs, trays, cans	Paper and cardboard	Garden and food waste	Landfill waste	Glass bottles and jars
Container	Blue 240 Litre Wheeled Bin	Green 240 Litre Wheeled Bin	Brown 240 Litre Wheeled Bin	Grey 240 Litre Wheeled Bin	55 Litre Blue Box
Collection Vehicle Type	Rear End Loader	Rear End Loader	Rear End Loader	Rear End Loader	Rear End Loader
Collection Frequency	2 Weekly	4 Weekly	2 Weekly	2 Weekly	2 Weekly (Recently changed to 4 Weekly)

The fleet was reduced in size from 42 vehicles of various types to 15 rear end loading RCVs under repair and replace contracts, reducing high downtime and repair costs. These feature an 11-tonne payload rather than an 8-tonne with reduced labour-intensive loading practices, lower carbon emissions and advanced safety features.

Other changes included: the workforce shifted from 5 day working to a 4 on 4 off system, a new leadership team was created, it was agreed that the Council would commit to upskilling and to apprenticeships and a redesigned website was launched as part of the communications strategy.

Several improvements have been realised from these changes including:

- An average 55% reduction in waste to landfill
- An average 61.3% of waste recycled or composted
- A 27% reduction in sickness absence
- A 84% reduction in MIRFs and 68% reduction in injuries

Questions from the audience were asked on the impact on recycling centres, contamination in bins, flatted properties and city centre recycling systems, moisture content in recycling, garden waste routing and charging, assisted elderly pull outs, compositional analysis of residual waste, energy from waste and the working time directive.

6. Household Recycling Charter update / SWITCH update / information on Revolve

Charlie Devine of Zero Waste Scotland attended to provide an update on the Household Recycling Charter, the SWITCH Forum and Revolve.

There are now 26 signatories of the Household Recycling Charter. £25 million has been put forward to help local authorities make necessary changes. 5 authorities have received awards, and 2 are currently pending.

As part of the SWITCH update, Charlie let the group know that the Waste industry is now ranked worse than the Construction industry for industrial accidents. As many as 5 people lost their lives in 1 accident. He also reminded the group on the availability of the SWITCH Competency Framework, an assessment tool designed to assess teams in waste and resource management against a range of competences and skills relevant to their job roles. Information can then easily be transferred across onto an easy-to-read dashboard to show areas for development across the team. [Click here for more information.](#)

Revolve is a re-use quality standard for shops who sell second hand goods in Scotland. Revolve wants to make it easier, more inviting, and safer for everyone to buy second hand items. Buying from a Revolve certified re-use store means getting great items, good value and excellent customer service, with products that conform to modern safety standards, and the knowledge that those stores care about environmental issues and their local communities. There are currently 102 fully Revolve accredited stores. The Revolve website is www.revolvereuse.com and their phone number is 01786 433930 if you would like to know more.

Charlie also provided a short update on the changes happening with recycling in China with separated plastics.

7. Roundtable discussion of issues affecting service delivery:

There were discussions around the plastic reduction scheme, the impact of minimum alcohol pricing on recycling and waste from energy.

8. APSE update

Garry Lee provided a short update on the recent work of APSE, including the latest trend analysis briefings and upcoming publications, and provided dates of upcoming seminars and training events.

9. Date/Venue of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 9th February 2018 at the Golden Lion Hotel in Stirling.

Attendees List

Name	Council
Garry Lee	APSE
Erica Manfroi	City of Edinburgh Council
Malcolm Rae	East Ayrshire Council
Stuart Wood	East Lothian Council
David Miller	East Renfrewshire Council
Michael McPake	North Lanarkshire Council
Donna Rigby	Perth & Kinross Council
Lucy Garthwaite	Perth & Kinross Council
Gary Mooney	Scotland Excel
Cllr Ian Cochrane	South Ayrshire Council
Bob Black	South Lanarkshire Council
Cllr Peter Craig	South Lanarkshire Council
Charlie Kelly	South Lanarkshire Council
George Sommerville	Stirling Council
Lindsey Hepburn	Stirling Council
Charlie Devine	Zero Waste Scotland