

Notice of Non-key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Submission of Havering’s waste Reduction and Recycling Plan to the GLA
Decision Maker:	Cllr Barry Mugglestone
Cabinet Member:	Cllr Barry Mugglestone
SLT Lead:	Neil Stubbings
Report Author and contact details:	Jacki Ager – Waste and External Contracts Manager Jacki.ager@havering.gov.uk 01708 433363
Policy context:	Havering's Climate Change Action Plan aims to ensure plans are in place to address the added impact of climate change on issues of disease, food safety, waste and climate-enhanced pandemics. The Council will play a key role in supporting recycling, reusing and reducing the amount of waste we throw away across the borough and produced by Council buildings and operations.
Financial summary:	There are no direct financial implications specific to this Reduction and Recycling Plan. Any service changes will be borne out of central government policy, at this time likely to include the introduction of separate food waste collections. These will be subject to a separate decision to be made at a later date.
Relevant OSC:	Places Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	Yes, as it is a non-key decision.
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The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Part A – Report seeking decision

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DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve the contents and submission of the attached Reduction and Recycling Plan to the GLA.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

The following elements of the Council's Constitution apply:

Council's Constitution of 21 March 2019 Part 3 - Responsibility for Functions

Part 2 Executive Functions - 2.5(j) Delegation to individual cabinet member by the Leader:

To consider and recommend plans in respect of the portfolio allocated.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Under the London Mayor's power of direction, all London Boroughs are required to submit a Reduction and Recycling Plan (RRP) detailing the activities they will be undertaking in order to reduce waste, increase recycling and mitigate the environmental impact of waste collections between now and 2025. Boroughs are required to act in general conformity with the Mayor's municipal waste provisions in the London Environment Strategy. A copy of Havering's RRP is included in Appendix A.

The London Environment Strategy (2018) outlines the following London wide targets, and the RRP's should set out how each respective Borough aims to work to achieve these:

- To cut food waste and associated packaging waste by 50 per cent per person by 2030
- To achieve a 65 per cent municipal waste recycling rate by 2030, including a 50 per cent recycling rate for local authority collected waste (LACW) by 2025
- To send zero biodegradable or recyclable waste to landfill by 2026
- London to manage 100 per cent of all the waste it produces by 2026

Minimum level of household waste recycling service by 2020:

- All properties with kerbside recycling collections to receive a separate weekly food waste collection service
- All properties to receive a collection of, at a minimum, the six main dry materials, glass, cans, paper, card, plastic bottles and mixed rigid plastics (pots, tubs and trays).

In addition to the above, central government has legislated for the following:

- Separate collection of food waste for recycling, from all households by 2025;

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- Materials separated into individual streams for dry recycling (subject to self-assessment on basis of being technically, environmentally, and economically practical);
- A minimum set of materials for dry recycling.

It has also proposed:

- Free garden waste collection from all households; and
- Additional materials for recycling.

Havering has produced an RRP in accordance with the above. The current PFI waste disposal contract between the East London Waste Authority and Renewi is geared towards diversion from landfill. Waste disposal costs in the Borough (both residual waste and recycling) are in the region of £17m per annum and increasing by approximately £1m each year. Therefore, Havering's priority is waste reduction, however it is recognised that any additional recycling provision will help to future proof Havering's future position under a new ELWA contract post-2027.

The main activities within the RRP are:

- Compliance with government-mandated food waste collections
- Appraisal of government-proposed free garden waste collections
- Introduction of additional materials to the kerbside recycling service, including textiles, glass and plastic pots, tubs and trays
- Continuation of Havering's waste minimisation programme including home composting, Love Food Hate Waste and Real Nappies
- Measurements of climate impact through reduction in fuel usage and carbon offsetting
- Continuing to work with ELWA on its waste prevention programme

Havering has proposed recycling targets associated with the introduction of separate food waste collections from 2025.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

The GLA has power of direction to ensure submission of the Reduction Plans, therefore there are no other options regarding whether to submit a Plan or not. Provision has been made in the upcoming integrated waste and street cleansing contract with Urbaser to cover anticipated changes relating to food waste collections and free garden waste collections, however the introduction of either would require a separate decision and further information received from central government around New Burdens funding.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

N/A

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NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

Name: Jacki Ager

Designation: Waste and External Contracts Manager

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JA', is written over the signature line.

Date: 26.07.23

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Council is a waste collection authority for the purposes of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and must act in general conformity with the provisions of the London Environment Strategy dealing with municipal waste management, save to the extent that compliance does not impose excessive additional costs on the authority. As set out in this report, the proposed Reduction and Recycling Plan complies with these requirements.

Under s.356 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999, the Mayor of London may direct the Council as a waste authority to take action if he considers it necessary for the purposes of implementation of the London Environment Strategy. The Council must therefore comply with the Mayor's direction to submit its Reduction and Recycling Plan

The recommendations set out within this report are within the Council's powers and duties.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

There are no financial implications specific to this Reduction and Recycling Plan at the present time, as any additional anticipated service changes will be subject to a separate decision. However, to ensure compliance with the Environment Act 2021, Havering has built into its new waste collection contract specific anticipated changes. There is also a dependency on ELWA's PFI contract with Renewi where food waste provision is concerned.

It has previously been suggested that Extended Producer Responsibility may be used as a way of funding waste / recycling collections and in its response to the associated public consultations, Havering stated that regardless, the New Burdens Doctrine should ensure full net cost recovery relating to waste collection / disposal.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)

There are no HR implications at present.

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- (i) the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

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Note: 'Protected characteristics' are: age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

No impact, either positive or negative, has been identified as part of Havering's Reduction and Recycling Plan, as any significant service changes would require their own separate Council decision. Instead, this Plan represents a direction of travel, as well as a framework for existing business-as-usual practices.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The RRP requires Councils to consider the climate impacts of their service provision. Havering has committed to measuring and reducing carbon impacts (including fuel usage) as well as offsetting through its new integrated waste collection and street cleansing contract, and to devise a set of metrics with Urbaser, its new contractor from October 2023.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

APPENDICIES

Appendix 1 RRP Template providing an introduction to havering, its strategic objectives and key actions.

Appendix 2 Document providing commentary on key government proposals around local authority waste and recycling collections.

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Part C – Record of decision

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Proposal agreed

Details of decision maker

Signed

Barry Mugglestone

Name: Councillor Barry Mugglestone

Cabinet Portfolio held: Environment

Date: 07/08/2023

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to Democratic Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on _____

Signed _____