

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

6 SEPTEMBER 2005

ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) with an update on the progress of the Environment Scrutiny Panel.

BACKGROUND

2. Since the last update to the Board the Panel have met on 12 August and at that meeting received an informative update on current litter enforcement activities and the actions taken against offenders.
3. With regard to the Panel's review of the Recycling Policy in Middlesbrough the Panel have agreed the Aim and Terms of Reference for the review of Recycling, which is as follows:

'To investigate the Council's Recycling Policy in the context of the national agenda and with particular reference to the development of a strategy for Green Waste in Middlesbrough'

- i) To gain an understanding of the issues of the national waste strategy
 - ii) To gain an understanding of the council's current recycling initiatives
 - iii) To investigate the targets that have been set for recycling levels in Middlesbrough and to establish if the Council is meeting those targets
 - iv) To investigate how the Council could develop a strategy for green waste
 - v) To investigate how the Council could encourage recycling amongst its residents.
4. As part of the review members of the Panel visited the Teesside Energy from Waste plant run by SITA Tees Valley Ltd. Members took a tour of the three parts of the operation of the Plan, including Energy from Waste the Composting Development area and the household waste recycling centre.
5. At the panel's next meeting on 9 September Members will be receiving information on the Council's Green Waste Policy and considering the options for Middlesbrough. Mark Fishpool, Director of Middlesbrough Environment City will also be able to attend to inform Members about the Home Composting Scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

6. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the content of the report.

**COUNCILLOR GEOFF COLE
CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL**