

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

24 SEPTEMBER 2007

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 work of the Scrutiny Panel.

BACKGROUND

2. The Environment Scrutiny Panel is continuing its scrutiny investigation of waste services. The Council's Waste Services Manager attended the panel's last meeting (10 September 2007) to present further information on the topic.
3. Members considered information in respect of the following:
 - The possibility of engaging a specialist company to advise on the routing of refuse/recycling/green waste collection rounds.
 - The rationale behind the need to improve collection rounds.
 - The likelihood that recycling rates will increase very significantly in coming years and the possible implications.
4. Reference was also made to the recent House of Commons Select Committee report on refuse collection and it was agreed that this would be considered by the scrutiny panel at a future meeting.

5. The panel's findings will be included in its final report on this topic, which will be submitted to OSB in due course.
6. The scrutiny panel also considered a report updating the position in respect of the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Board and a report on the implementation of previous scrutiny recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

7. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the updated position in respect of the work of the Environment Scrutiny Panel.

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

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