

**REPORT TO:** Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 8 February 2017

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director Enterprise, Community and Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Physical Environment

**SUBJECT:** Joint Waste Local Plan – Monitoring Report 2015/16

**WARDS:** Borough-wide

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1. The Waste Local Plan (WLP) Monitoring Report (Appendix A) for 2015/16, is the third annual report prepared by the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS) on behalf of the six Liverpool City Region councils. The attached report is also published online at: <http://www.meas.org.uk/1090>
- 1.2. The Joint Waste Local Plan for Merseyside and Halton (WLP) was adopted by Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Councils (together the six partner councils), with effect from 18 July 2013. The WLP Plan Period is from 2013 to 2027 and forms part of Halton's adopted development plan.
- 1.3. Production of a Monitoring Report is a statutory requirement under Regulation 34 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, which requires Local Authorities to publish a Monitoring Report on an at least annual basis.

**2. RECOMMENDATION: That the accompanying report be noted.**

**3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1. This third annual Monitoring Report covers the 12 month period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 to 31st March 2016. Due to some of the Merseyside local authorities' monitoring information not being available, it is difficult to take a City Region-wide judgement on overall performance, however, from a

Halton perspective, Halton has performed well and continues to improve its waste management procedures.

- 3.2. The content of the Monitoring Report is guided by statutory requirements set out in the Local Planning Regulations 2012; National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) (October 2014); the Waste Framework Directive<sup>1</sup> (WFD); the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (Regulation 17) and national Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

#### **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1. The following points summarise developments over the 2015/16 period:

##### LCR Headlines

(Note - for detail see Table 13 (page 49) and Table 15 (page 60) in Appendix A to this report)

- 9 waste management facilities were consented yielding 434,712 tonnes per annum (tpa) capacity which is up 65% on 2014-15;
- This comprised a mixture of new small scale facilities, landfill restoration and new capacity at existing sites;
- 33% of new capacity was for Anaerobic Digestion and 51% for landfill restoration projects;
- 12 waste planning applications were received and of these 4 were developed out and are now operational;
- The 9 consented waste management facilities have the potential to create up to 47 new jobs;
- In terms of the Waste Hierarchy – 2 recycling facilities were consented, 5 other recovery and 2 disposal (landfill restoration);
- 60% of waste applications received were within Areas of Search identified in the Plan. 40% were on unallocated sites;
- Overall tonnages of residual LACW collected are down 3.1% on 2014-15 (Table 3, pg 33);
- Reported fly-tipping incidents are up in 5 of the 6 Districts (see pg 34, Table 4);
- The recycling rate for the Plan Area was 42.0% in 2014-15 up from 39.1% in 2013-14 (Table 6, pg 37);
- 1 (10%) of waste applications received included a proposal (in Halton) to achieve BREEAM excellent/very good rating or equivalent (page 63, Table 16).

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<sup>1</sup> DCLG (2012) Guidance for local planning authorities on implementing planning requirements of the European Union Waste : Framework Directive (2008/98/EC

[http://observgo.uquebec.ca/observgo/fichiers/39418\\_GLR-1.pdf](http://observgo.uquebec.ca/observgo/fichiers/39418_GLR-1.pdf)

#### **4.2. Halton Headlines**

- Halton has the highest recycling rate in the LCR (Table 6, pg 37) and is on target to achieve a 50% rate by 2020.
- Halton's residual collected waste continues to decline. There has been a continuous reduction since March 2013. Residual collected waste is the waste that is not recycled ('black bag' waste). A decline usually indicates a reduction in waste generation and increased recycling and Table 7 pg 38 indicates an increase in the amount of waste collected for recycling.
- There were 3 new planning consents in Halton. These were for an anaerobic digestion facility at 3MG, and two remediation schemes that will use inert recycled materials to cap these old landfills (Johnsons Lane and Hedco at 3MG).
- There has been an increase in fly tipping in Halton (see paragraph 78, page 34). The reasons for this increase require local investigation as the report sources data on waste arisings from the 'WasteDataFlow' system (WasteDataFlow is the web based system for municipal waste data reporting by UK local authorities to government). It may simply be a case of heightened awareness and reporting.
- Both of Halton's recycling centres have seen recycling levels reduce slightly (Johnsons Lane 70%, Picow Farm 67%) (See Table 5, page 35). This may be a result of the move to fortnightly collections and therefore more general domestic waste being taken to the Civic Amenity sites, of which less waste is capable of being recycled.

4.3. Halton, performs very well in terms of method of disposal of LA collected waste (LACW) (domestic waste collections). The 2020 target is a maximum of 10% to landfill and the remaining 40% to treatment (the other 50% is to be recycled). The data shows an increase in the tonnage sent to energy recovery, to a total of almost 30,000 tonnes. LACW to landfill has decreased to 11,165 tonnes. Almost 35,000 tonnes is now recycled/reused/composted.

### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1. None. This report fulfils a statutory duty to provide information on the progress of the implementation of the Waste Local Plan.

### **6. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

The implementation of the Waste Local Plan is important in supporting many aspects of the Core Strategy, Corporate Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy.

#### **6.1. Children & Young People in Halton**

No specific implications identified.

#### **6.2. Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

No specific implications identified.

### **6.3. A Healthy Halton**

No specific implications identified.

### **6.4. A Safer Halton**

No specific implications identified.

### **6.5. Halton's Urban Renewal**

The monitoring report is a statutory requirement. The Waste Local Plan guides the development of the necessary waste management infrastructure in Merseyside and Halton.

## **7. RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1. There are no risks associated with the Waste Local Plan Monitoring Report.

## **8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1. There are no equality and diversity issues associated with the Monitoring Report.

8.2. The strategic implications of growth, and the positive and negative impacts that could arise, were considered in an equalities impact assessment (EIA) attached to both the Core Strategy and Waste Local Plan, as these documents contain the relevant adopted planning policies for waste management.

## **9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

| <b>Document</b>   | <b>Place of Inspection</b>                   | <b>Contact Officer</b> |
|---|--|------------------------|
| Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St.Helens and Wirral (Joint) Waste Local Plan (adopted 2013) | 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor.<br>Municipal Building | Alasdair Cross         |
| Joint Waste Local Plan Monitoring Report 2015/16  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor.<br>Municipal Building | Alasdair Cross         |
| Joint Waste Local Plan Monitoring Report 2014/15  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor.<br>Municipal Building | Alasdair Cross         |
| Joint Waste Local Plan Monitoring Report 2013/14  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor.<br>Municipal Building | Alasdair Cross         |