

**JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD**  
**7 JULY 2022**  
**(9.30 - 11.20 am)**

Present: Bracknell Forest Borough Council  
Councillor Mrs Dorothy Hayes MBE

Reading Borough Council  
Councillor Tony Page  
Councillor Karen Rowland

Wokingham District Council  
Councillor Clive Jones  
Councillor Ian Shenton

Officers Oliver Burt, re3 Strategic Waste Manager  
Lauren Shute, re3 Marketing & Communications Officer  
Sarah Innes, re3 Performance Officer  
Jayne Rowley, re3 Finance Officer  
Kevin Gibbs, Bracknell Forest Council  
Damian James, Bracknell Forest Council  
Andy Edwards, Reading Borough Council  
Richard Bisset, Wokingham Borough Council

Apologies for absence were received from:  
Councillor John Harrison, Bracknell Forest Council

**64. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**65. Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board held on the 3 March 2022, be approved as a correct record.

**66. Urgent Items of Business**

There were no Urgent Items of Business.

**67. Re3 Waste Partnership Report**

The Joint Waste Disposal Board received the re3 Waste Partnership report which was accompanied by presentations, made to by Jayne Rowley, re3 Finance Officer and Rory Brian, General Manager at FCC.

The presentation was broken down into these three areas:

- Delivery Social Value
- Climate Change and re3 CO2 Emissions
- Waste Composition Analysis

Arising from the presentations, the following points were raised:

- FCC had partnered with Thrive, who were a software platform which enables people and companies to input the values they were delivering in the community and linked back to Government social value models.
- This linked through the Impact Evaluation Standard which was a framework designed to help organisations measure and value their social value activities.
- The metrics were all government based and was fully auditable.
- There were 122 metrics that it linked too and was organised in to five themes.
- FCC had invested in Thrive software and were the only waste management company to do so at present.
- The 122 metrics had been whittled down by FCC to what they believed were the top 25 that covered activities within their operations. This was then divided into four main categories. Tackling Economic Inequality, Increase Supply Chain Resilience, Fighting Climate Change and wellbeing.
- The 2021 social value delivered in re3 had been calculated from direct activities within the re3 areas, this did not include second tier activities such as composting.
- 2022 reporting had commenced which had resulted in more metrics being introduced.
- £18,911,017 worth of social value had been delivered within FCC's activities as part of the partnership, this represented 64% of council spend with FCC Environment delivered in social value.
- There had been significant investment with local organisation and businesses.
- There had been investment in people and training.
- There were local jobs opportunities, with the FCC employing 110 employees and all but 5 lived in the re3 area.
- A format for presenting the data on a quarterly format would be arranged.
- There had been great progress in reducing the Co2 emission in the last 7 years.
- Landfill usage had reduced over the past 7 years.
- The average of Co2 emissions had been 115 kilograms but this had been reduced to an average of 43.82 in the past year. Residual waste had also reduced from 185.88 to 74.4.
- Household waste going to landfill was still producing the biggest Co2 emissions.
- The presentation showed the mix of waste received over the past 7 years.
- Residual waste had reduced considerably since the introduction of food waste. What can be done next was the big question. One option was contaminants, there was a high value of contaminants in the recycling, last year it was 26%.
- A recent piece of work had been undertaken to look at the waste composition analysis.
- FCC worked with Socotec to undertake the waste sampling and analysis. This had been undertaken over 2 weeks in May and June.
- Waste was separated into 27 different categories.
- All three councils selected rounds bases on previous street data from historic analysis.
- Waste based data was used to identify recyclates within the residual waste which was the more representative way that the sampling could be undertaken without sampling every tonne. This allowed for the tonnes of waste within the residual waste to be identified that should and shouldn't be there.
- The 2022/23 waste flow forecast for kerbside residual waste to the transfer facilities was 68,798 tonnes.

- Nearly 32% was recyclates material, 22.4% was food waste, 7.8% was Green waste.
- 62.1%, 42,623 tonnes, should not have been in the residual waste.
- If all recyclates were recycled correctly there would be a saving of £1.45m.
- If all wood was recycled correctly there would be a saving of £53,452.
- If all green tonnage was collected or taken to the waste facilities, there would be a £254,628 saving.
- If all food waste was recycled correctly there would be a saving of £1.55m.
- There was a number of things that the councils could do such as identify measures to encourage residents to place materials in the correct bin and container, provide targeted education to residents, work with the collection teams to devise initiatives and revamp the website and app.
- FCC could assist with updating the website and app, provide area and round specific data, review and assist council ins identifying actions and arranging further sampling

As a result of the groups comments and questions, the following points were made:

- Historically there had been a project looking at a permeant reuse show and would be reviewed. In the meantime, pop up shops, and work with Sue Ryder would be undertaken.
- A number of bikes were received, especially children's bikes, work was done with precycle and Sue Ryder to take any serviceable bikes after a safety check was undertaken. Bikes had also sold very quickly at the pop-up events.
- It had been agreed at a previous meeting, that if members were aware of any charities and groups in their local areas that could benefit from items such as bikes, that this be brought to the Officers, and they would undertake the relevant checks.
- The composting scheme had not been included in the figures presented to the board but would be looked at going forward.
- It was asked whether a more local digester had been sourced, as the current food waste was being taken to Oxfordshire.
- The presentations were interesting and aspirational, but also showed a lot of opportunity.
- The data allowed for targeted coms for specific areas of waste and demographic.
- FCC were asking collectors across the country whether there had been specific campaigns that had worked that could be used.
- All the specific data and detail could be provided to the individual councils.
- A session was being held with officers to go through the data in detail.
- There were actually 62 different categories to break waste down into.

**RESOLVED** that the contents of the report and accompanying presentations are noted.

## 68. **Re3 Progress Report**

The Board received a report on progress in the delivery of the re3 Joint Waste PFI Contract.

The report covered:

- Councillor and Stakeholder Briefing Sessions
- re3 and Council Performance Statistics

- Supermarket Bring Banks
- re3Grow Compost
- Rigid Plastics Recycling Trial
- Mixed Glass
- Communications
- Council Objectives and Performance Information Review

Wider member sessions were being prepared and set up which would allow detail to be provided to members regarding the contact and what this does and what this could look like going forward. It was expected that these would be set up for each Council and it was hoped that dates would be set up by the Autumn meeting.

Sarah Innes reported the performance statistics for all three Council the provisional recycling rates for 2021/2022, these were:

BFC – 56.2%  
 RBC – 51.5%  
 WBC – 54.2%

All three councils had an increase on their rates from the previous year. The main reasons for this were the changes made at kerbside recycling, and the years being compared were the first and second year of the pandemic with more waste being taken to the recycling centres in the past year.

The provisional 2021/22 recycling rates for the re3 recycling centres were presented below alongside a comparison with 2020/21. In 2020/21, recyclable waste received at the re3 recycling centres fell by 33% as a result of the pandemic. It was assumed that the greater increase in residual waste tonnages in 2021/22, may therefore be linked to the changes made at the kerbside.

The re3 Councils had a statutory duty to report Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste via Waste Data Flow. Where a supermarket collects waste through its own private arrangements, the supermarket can voluntarily report data, and this can be included in Waste Data Flow returns. Historically the Sainsbury's Supermarkets within the Bracknell Forest and Wokingham Borough areas have reported tonnages of glass, plastics, cans, paper and cardboard collected at recycling banks located at their stores, however in April that the off-taker had changed and it was confirmed that the plastics, cans, paper and cardboard collected at these banks was no longer recycled. The bring bank arrangements at Sainsbury's supermarkets were entirely separate to the kerbside or bring bank collections undertaken by the councils. The re3 Partnership has no control over how the Sainsbury's waste is processed and no obligation to report this waste. Officers recommend these tonnages should no longer be included in the Council statistics and Officers would add a statement on the re3 website and re3cyclopedia app to ensure that residents are aware of the separation.

10,000 bags of 40L compost were ordered for sale at the Recycling Centre. The sales began in mid-March with more than 5,800 bags having been purchased by residents as of the end of May. The Partnership also launched the Community re3Grow scheme in May 2022. Through this scheme, local community groups could apply to receive free bags of compost to help promote environmental principles. Up to 5000 bags were made available through this scheme and 47 applications were received in May. Officers shared the details from the expression of interest forms with Members of the Joint Waste Disposal Board who approved the majority of the applications. Only 4 applications had been requested in June for compost.

Communications would be promoted inside and outside the Council. Schools had not been included within the scheme because of the number of schools within the re3 area, there was learning now that could be looked at if the scheme was to go forward next year. It was agreed by the Board that schools be looked at and included going forward. The first feedback had been received and photos posted on social media.

The rigid plastics recycling trial had commenced at both Recycling Centres in early July 2021, residents had continued to make good use of the service with over 260 tonnes of rigid plastics having been sent for recycling in the nine months between July and March. Officers were confident that the cost of recycling would remain lower than the cost of landfilling the same material. Although a review of the transport arrangements would continue going forward, it was recommended to Members that this service be made permanent.

re3 glass recycling banks began accepting mixed glass in November 2021. A six-month review took place with the re3 Contractor in May 2022 to review the service. There had been significant fewer overflows over the same period. It had been identified that there were a small number of sites where residents were continuing to separate their glass by colour. Larger stickers had been ordered for these sites, to reduce any confusion and to encourage mixing in the banks.

Lauren Shute reported that she had started producing a contamination video, which was for educational and informational purposes for residents.

A new update had been released to the re3yclopedia phone app at the end of May. The phone app now utilised a new barcode technology, that allowed residents to scan their items to learn how to best recycle them. This had not yet been promoted as there was still an issue with postcodes on the app which was being worked on.

**RESOLVED** that

- i. Members note the contents of the report.
- ii. Members approve the recommendation at 5.20 within the report to discontinue the reporting of Sainsbury's bring bank tonnages and add a statement on the re3 website to highlight the separate nature of the council services.
- iii. Members approve the recommendation at 5.31 of the report to end the rigid plastics recycling trial and make the service a permanent arrangement at both recycling centres.

**69. Exclusion of Public and Press**

**RESOLVED** that pursuant to Regulation 21 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) Regulations 2000 and having regard to the public interest, members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of item 8 & 9 which involves the likely disclosure of exempt information under the following category of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

(3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person.

**70. Financial Management Report**

The Board received the Finance Report which briefed the re3 Joint Waste Disposal Board on the Partnership's current financial position and confirmed the second draft Budget.

**RESOLVED** that

- i. Members note the forthcoming commencement of an audit, of the re3 arrangements, by the Administering Authority, on behalf of the re3 partnership.
- ii. Members note the Partnership's financial position for 2021/22 year and the current year, 2022/23, to date.
- iii. Members approve the proposal to extend the current arrangements for intra-contract haulage.
- iv. Members indicate their preference for providing initial objectives for the contract pathway.
- v. Members note the contents of the report.

**71. Booking System Information Report**

The Board received the Booking System Information report which briefed the re3 Joint Waste Disposal Board on access arrangements at the re3 recycling centres.

**RESOLVED** that

- i. Members note the contents of this report.
- ii. Members indicate whether any additional information should be presented at the September re3 Board meeting, on this subject and in support of a decision on whether to retain the booking system beyond November 2022.

**72. Date of the Next Board Meeting**

Thursday 29 September 2022

**CHAIRMAN**