

Committee(s): Environment, Enforcement and Housing Committee	Date: 8 December 2020
Subject: Recycling Update	Wards Affected: All
Report of: Greg Campbell, Director of Environment	Public
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Summary

This report submits a recycling update for the information of the committee.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- R1. Note the information contained within Appendix A – Members’ Recycling Briefing**
- R2. Note the information contained within Appendix B - Residents Recycling Newsletter (draft)**

Main Report

Introduction and Background

1. On 3 August 2020, the Council introduced a revised dry recycling scheme. The scheme replaced the orange sacks, used for all mixed dry recycling, with two reusable recycling sacks – one for ‘paper and card’, and one for ‘can and plastics’.
2. The scheme was revised to address high levels of contamination in the orange sacks, and to enable the Council to create an income stream from the recycling collected.
3. The scheme has now been running for over 3 months and the attached briefing provides Members with an overview of the first 3 months of the scheme (until 30 October 2020).
4. The scheme is still in its infancy and performance of the scheme will continue to be measured against the original Business Case objectives. Key performance indicators will also be reported to Audit & Scrutiny committee and will be formally incorporated for 2021/22.

5. A newsletter is being prepared for residents, which will be circulated digitally before Christmas. A draft of the proposed content is provided as Appendix B.

Reasons for Recommendation

6. To provide feedback to Members on the performance of the new recycling scheme.

References to Corporate Plan

7. Within the 'Protecting the Environment' priority, the Council strives to 'Improve and enhance our waste management services'. The effective collection of dry recycling is critical to this.

Implications

Financial Implications

Name/Title: Jacqueline Van Mellaerts, Director of Corporate Resources
Tel/Email: 01277 312500/jacqueline.vanmellaerts@brentwood.gov.uk

Due to COVID-19, the introduction of the scheme was delayed which has affected the expected full year revenue. Budgets have been amended to reflect this.

Legal Implications

Name & Title: Amanda Julian, Head of Legal Service and Monitoring Officer
Tel & Email: 01277 312705/amanda.julian@brentwood.gov.uk

Local authorities are now required to meet higher recycling and composting targets under current EU and UK laws and could be penalised if they fail to meet these targets. This has led to changes in the way that local authorities collect waste. These changes are designed to increase the level of household recycling and composting, thereby reducing the amount of waste incinerated or thrown into landfills. By reviewing and implementing ways to collect recycling the Council mitigates its risk of challenges or penalties.

Economic Implications

Name/Title: Phil Drane, Director of Planning and Economy
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It is important that the Council leads by example through initiatives that consider environmental implications. Such schemes will encourage and enable residents and businesses to take steps to be more environmentally conscious, with wider economic benefits.

Background Papers

None

Appendices to this report

Appendix A – Members' Recycling Briefing

Appendix B – Residents Recycling Newsletter (draft)