

Scrutiny Report



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: 7 March 2019

Subject **Waste Service Review**

Author Overview and Scrutiny Officer

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Roger Jeavons	Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Paul Jones	Head of City Services
Rhys Cornwall	Head of People and Business Change
Silvia Gonzalez	Waste Service Manager

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to:

1. Consider the Wales Audit Office Waste Service Follow Up Review and establish whether the Cabinet Member and Officers have suitable action plans for implementing the WAO recommendations and comments.
2. Consider the Officer comments based on the Committees recommendations to the Waste Strategy Policy Review Group Report.
3. Decide if the Committee wishes to make any comments or recommendation to Cabinet on either the WAO report or the Recommendation Monitoring Report.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 Wales Audit Office (WAO) initially issued Newport City Council with a report reviewing the waste service in 2016. WAO highlighting four areas for improvement including governance, engagement and communication, long term business plan and the monitoring of recycling contracts. These four areas for improvement were built on the WAO concluding that the Council did not plan strategically, it did not use the governance and performance management arrangements effectively to drive improvement.

The Streetscene, Regeneration and Safety Committee received the initial report at their meeting on the 17 November 2016. At this meeting the Committee agreed to create a Policy Review Group.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee received the Policy Review Groups final report at their meeting on the 17 November 2017. The Committee fully supported the recommendations and comments made by the Policy Review Group and forwarded the final report onto the Cabinet Member for Streetscene.

- 2.2 The WAO Follow Up Review, which you have before you now, establishes whether the NCC had effectively addressed the proposals for improvement which were set out in the first WAO report. The WAO state that these improvements would be needed to facilitate sustainable improved outcomes for waste management in line with Welsh Government targets.
- 2.3 Appendix two is an update on the recommendations the Committee made after the Policy Review Group (PRG) completed its review of the development of the Waste Strategy. The PRG was established to work in collaboration with Officers to review the waste services and modelling of different scenarios for future waste services. The PRG made a number of recommendations and comments, based on the review and different proposed scenarios, to the Cabinet Member to take into account prior to a decision being taken on how Newport would meet key Welsh Government targets.

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 **Appendix 1** - Wales Audit Office Waste Service Follow Up Review
- 3.2 **Appendix 2** – Recommendations Monitoring - Waste Strategy Policy Review Group

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

- Consider the WAO Follow Up Review and establish whether the Officers have action plans to address the improvement points and inadequacies highlighted. The Committee might wish to look at the Councils response from 2016 to the WAO recommendations and comments to support any questions in this area.
- Decide if the Officers response to the PRG's recommendation and comments, which were supported by the Committee, are sufficient and provide enough information to satisfy the Committee.
- Conclusions:
 - What was the overall conclusion on the information contained within the reports?
 - Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all of the relevant information to base a conclusion on the performance of the Service Area?
 - Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?
 - Do the Committee wish to make any Comments / Recommendations to the Cabinet?

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- The WAO Follow Up Review and the Recommendations Monitoring Report both work towards the four Corporate Plan Commitments and related Well Being Objectives:

Well-being Objectives	Promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment	Improve skills, educational outcomes & employment opportunities	Enable people to be healthy, independent & resilient	Build cohesive & sustainable communities
Corporate Plan Commitments	Thriving City	Aspirational People		Resilient Communities
Supporting Function	Modernised Council			

6 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

5 Ways of Working	Types of Questions to consider:
<p>Long-term The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.</p>	<p>The WAO report states that the Council do not have a long term strategy for its waste service, how do you aim to achieve this?</p>
	<p>Are there any long term trends developing that could affect how this plan is implemented to how the actions are prioritised?</p>
<p>Prevention Prevent problems occurring or getting worse.</p>	<p>How are you ensuring that the needs of the service users monitored and are taken into account when developing the long term strategy?</p>
	<p>The PRG recommended that education around proper recycling is important to increasing recycling rates, what is the Council doing to increase people's knowledge of how to recycle appropriately?</p>
<p>Integration Considering how public bodies' wellbeing objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.</p>	<p>How does the Council's implementation of the plan impact upon the services of other public bodies and their objectives?</p>
<p>Collaboration Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the organisation itself).</p>	<p>How are you using the knowledge / information / good practice of others to inform / influence the Council's work?</p>
<p>Involvement The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.</p>	<p>How as a Council are we ensuring we are consistently seeking the views of those who are impacted through the implementation of the plan?</p>
	<p>While developing a long term strategy, how are you ensuring the diverse communities are involved in your decision making?</p>

7. Background Papers

Include all additional documents that are referenced in the report, and those that you have used as background reading. Hyperlink to online versions of them if available.

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan](#)
- [Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee - 16 November 2017](#)
- [Streetscene, Regeneration and Safety Scrutiny Committee - 17 November 2016](#)