

Members are reminded that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests relating to any items of business to be discussed at this meeting

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

HEALTH, WELLBEING AND THE ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 19 APRIL 2017 AT 12:30 HOURS
IN WASTE TASK AND FINISH GROUP, HMS DARING ROOM,
COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE, BIRMINGHAM B1 1BB,
[VENUE ADDRESS]

A G E N D A

1 NOTICE OF RECORDING

Chairman to advise/meeting to note that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members are reminded that they must declare all relevant pecuniary interests and non-pecuniary interests relating to any items of business to be discussed at this meeting. If a pecuniary interest is declared a Member must not speak or take part in that agenda item. Any declarations will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

3 - 12

4 HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES TRACKING REPORT

This report seeks to update Members on progress against the recommendations

13 - 24

5 FROM WASTE TO RESOURCES-TRACKING REPORT

This report seeks to update Members on progress against the recommendations

6 OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any items of business by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) that in the opinion of the Chairman are matters of urgency.

7 **AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Chairman to move:-

'In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee'.

Report of:	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment
To:	Waste Task and Finish Group
Date:	19th April 2017

Progress Report on Implementation: Household Recycling Centres (HRCs)

Review Information

Date approved at City Council:	3 February 2015
Member who led the original review:	Councilor Majid Mahmood
Lead Officer for the review:	Emma Williamson
Date progress last tracked:	11 Dec 2015

1. In approving this Review the City Council asked me, as the appropriate Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment, to report on progress towards these recommendations to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
2. Details of progress with the remaining recommendations are shown in Appendix 2.
3. Members are therefore asked to consider progress against the recommendations and give their view as to how progress is categorized for each.

Appendices

1	Scrutiny Office guidance on the tracking process
2	Recommendations you are tracking today
3	Recommendations tracked previously and concluded

For more information about this report, please contact

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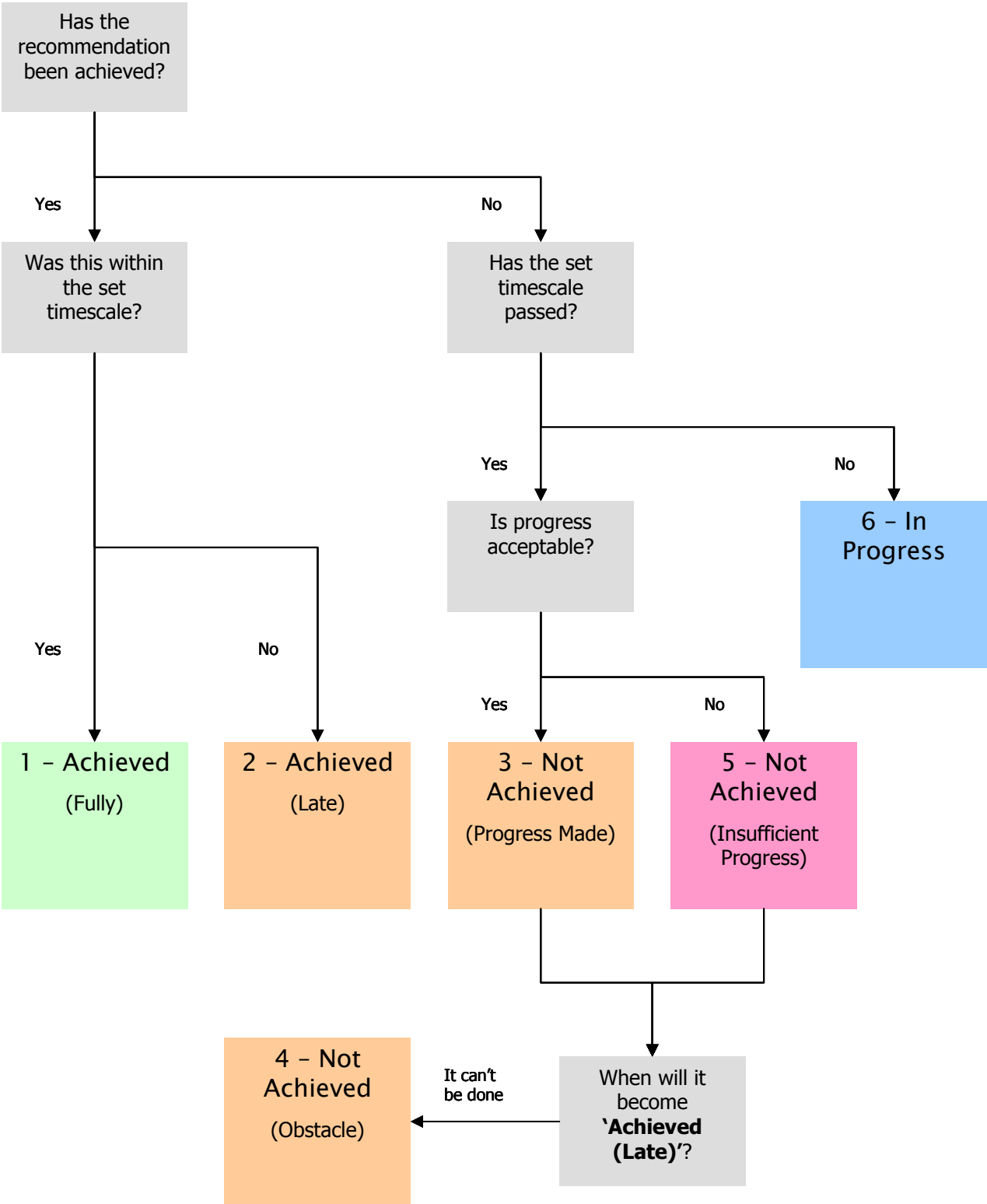
Appendix 1: The Tracking Process

In making its assessment, the Committee may wish to consider:

- What progress/ key actions have been made against each recommendation?
- Are these actions pertinent to the measures required in the recommendation?
- Have the actions been undertaken within the time scale allocated?
- Are there any matters in the recommendation where progress is outstanding?
- Is the Committee satisfied that sufficient progress has been made and that the recommendation has been achieved?

Category	Criteria
1: Achieved (Fully)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has been fully implemented within the timescale specified.
2: Achieved (Late)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has been fully implemented but not within the timescale specified.
3: Not Achieved (Progress Made)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved, but there has been significant progress made towards full achievement. An anticipated date by which the recommendation is expected to become achieved must be advised.
4: Not Achieved (Obstacle)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved, but all possible action has been taken. Outstanding actions are prevented by obstacles beyond the control of the Council (such as passage of enabling legislation).
5: Not Achieved (Insufficient Progress)	The evidence provided shows that the recommendation has not been fully achieved and there has been insufficient progress made towards full achievement. An anticipated date by which the recommendation is expected to become achieved must be advised.
6: In Progress	It is not appropriate to monitor achievement of the recommendation at this time because the timescale specified has not yet expired.

The Tracking Process



Appendix 2: Progress with Recommendations

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R01	That serious consideration is given to opening a new HRC in Birmingham as part of the new waste disposal arrangements post 2019	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	March 2016	3: Not achieved (Progress made)
Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')				
A review of the HRC arrangements is continuing - both for new sites and as part of the new disposal contract, for seasonal demand (garden waste) and to consider the provision of an additional Reuse facility in the south of the City. Progress on this is clearly aligned with waste disposal arrangements post 2019 and therefore completion of this recommendation within the original timescale has not been possible.				
No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R03	That an assessment is made of the enforcement of the Birmingham residents only policy alongside an assessment of a formal joint use policy with other local authorities. This should include the exploration of opening a new joint facility (alongside Recommendation 01)	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	November 2015	3: Not achieved (Progress made)
Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')				
From June 2017, with the introduction of charging for Trade Waste at HRC's, work will start to explore the impact of reinforcing the use of Birmingham HRC by only residents of the city.				
No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R04	That re-use is a priority in the revised waste strategy; and that an extension of the Re-Users Project to other HRCS is explored.	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	March 2016	3: Not achieved (Progress made)
Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')				
The Waste Management service is, together with other service areas of the City Council, exploring options to establish a second Reuse Centre in the south of the city. Potential sites are currently being sought. Continued support is being given to the Jericho Foundation who are working with the Council on the Waste Reduction Strategy and who continue to flourish on their site at the Norris Way HRC. Additionally consideration is being given in the specification under the new procurement to allocate areas for Reuse within the existing HRCs				
No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R06	That options for smart card use – to reduce contamination and monitor	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets,	September 2015	2: Achieved (Late)

	usage – are considered for inclusion in any future waste contract	Recycling and Environment		
Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')				
This option has been considered and initial discussions highlight that this would be too costly to introduce and will not be taken forward as part of the new procurement process.				
No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R07	That a recycling centre/facility for trade and commercial waste is considered as part of the new waste strategy, and procurement of any new contract	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	March 2016	3: Not achieved (Progress made)
Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')				
A separate approach to Trade Waste at the HRCs has been agreed and is in preparation to launch in June 2017. This will allow Traders to pay to use the HRC at Tyseley initially to take their waste and should deliver and income stream to the Council. The cost of disposal for recyclable materials compared to non-recyclable is significantly lower to encourage Trade to separate out waste.				

Appendix ③: Concluded Recommendations

These recommendations have been tracked previously and concluded. They are presented here for information only.

concluded

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Date Concluded by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Tracking Assessment
R02	That the opening of temporary sites over the summer is investigated, to deal with the increased volume of green waste.	Cabinet Member	Dec 2015	1.Achieved (Fully)
R05	That the lease for the Re-Users project is extended to allow Jericho to undertake long term planning.	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	Dec 2015	1: Achieved (Fully)

**REPORT OF THE TRANSPORT, CONNECTIVITY & SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
FROM WASTE TO RESOURCE**

1. FINDINGS

- 1.1 Since January 1994, the disposal contract for Birmingham's municipal waste has been contracted out to Veolia Environmental Services Birmingham (VESB) – an international recycling and waste management company. This is a 25-year contract, which has been varied on numerous occasions, and will terminate in January 2019.
- 1.2 There will be, therefore, an opportunity to change arrangements for the disposal of municipal waste, to design a modern, responsive waste to resource system, shaping how waste might become more of a resource for the city. Crucially it is now, in the five year period before the expiry of the waste contract that these important decisions need to be made.
- 1.3 The former Transport, Connectivity & Sustainability O&S Committee therefore set out to consider

What do we need to do to ensure Birmingham has the most sustainable
and efficient waste/recycling strategy post-January 2019?

2. FINDINGS

- 2.1 The Committee considered the factors and options for a future strategy that must be sustainable over future years; responsive over a significant period; and drive behavioural change for the public good. Within this period, the landscape will no doubt change beyond recognition (as it has over the past 25 years) in terms of the financial and commercial imperatives, environmental parameters and policy drivers that are key to any future strategy's sustainability. The Committee highlighted some of the key areas of challenge, and their interdependence.
- 2.2 The report considered the options for a future strategy, looking at what should be the focus of waste strategy post-2019; what should be done with the infrastructure already in existence (the Tyseley issue); what could the next phase of waste disposal and recycling operations look like; and what approach should be taken in terms of contracting with partners.
- 2.3 The opportunity afforded by the ending of the current waste disposal contract is that the city can reshape how waste is disposed of in the city. That means doing more than just refreshing the current Municipal Waste Strategy (due to expire in 2026). A fresh debate is needed on the content and direction of the strategy. It is also important to establish a clear guiding principle that set out what the city wants to achieve from its waste strategy, as this would ensure a coherent and transparent approach to any new waste disposal arrangements and provide a mechanism to negotiate the decision-making process.

- 2.4 A people-centred engagement exercise, built on where behaviours and requirements are now and how far things can be changed, is needed to underpin the principles in the new strategy, to involve the citizens of Birmingham in one of the local issues that concerns everyone.
- 2.5 The report recognises that Tyseley Energy from Waste plant is a key part of our waste disposal infrastructure and is the main contributor to assuring Birmingham's low rates of landfill. Retaining the plant will mean low capital costs for a further 15 years and would allow the City Council to progressively introduce newer technology and/or facilities to address the waste hierarchy, at a speed which could be most responsive to technological, environmental and municipal budget imperatives.
- 2.6 Another key finding was the need to enhance good customer services, education, information and communication, which are all important in driving up recycling rates. Waste-specific communications are not being approached strategically in Birmingham and could be improved. The diversity of Birmingham's communities should be recognised, and a targeted approach recognising this is the most cost-effective way of increasing participation. There is also a need to be better about telling the positive story of Birmingham's waste collection service – how it increases recycling and benefits in the city in economic and environmental terms.
- 2.7 The Committee also recognised the need to review the city's household recycling centres, and this will be pursued in the current municipal year.

3. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

	Recommendation	Responsibility	Completion Date
R01	That a wide-ranging exercise to engage Birmingham citizens in the creation of a new waste strategy (see R03) is undertaken; utilising the principles set out in the District & Public Engagement O&S Committee's report "Citizen Engagement".	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	September 2015
R02	A clear evidence base is established to underpin the new strategy. This should include on-going analysis of waste and recyclate collected.	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	September 2015
R03	That a new Waste Strategy for the city is put in place. This should include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A guiding principle, or set of guiding principles, to ensure a coherent and transparent approach to any new waste disposal arrangements; • A waste prevention plan for the city; • A consideration of all waste streams in the city including a mechanism for reviewing and, where appropriate, including new technologies to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness. 	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	March 2016

	Recommendation	Responsibility	Completion Date
R04	<p>That a draft procurement plan to achieve the goals of the Waste Strategy is brought to the committee for discussion. This to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How income / financial efficiency will be maximised from the new approach; • How flexibility in future contractual arrangements will be achieved; • A statement on the role the Tyseley Energy from Waste (EfW) Plant will play and how opportunities to invest in Tyseley to improve both economic and environmental performance will be fully explored; • How the City Council will be in a position to react to and employ new technologies in waste and recycling processing. 	<p>Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City</p> <p>Cabinet Member, Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement</p>	November 2015
R05	<p>As part of the management of the current contract, arrangements are made for a rigorous analysis of the Tyseley plant and site, to be conducted prior to the hand-over back to the City Council. This should include full inspection by appropriate experts to ensure that the plant and site are returned in accordance with the contract, and that any losses are fully accounted for.</p>	Cabinet Member, Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement	December 2017
R06	<p>A revitalised waste communication plan is needed, taking into account the outcomes of the public engagement exercise in R01. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of communication options to ensure messages reach the widest possible audience; • More user-friendly detail about the destination of waste and recycling on the website; • Engaging with local Councillors to give them the resources to pass on key messages; • Engaging with local community groups/spaces (including schools, places of worship, community centres) to give them the resources to pass on key messages; • More information/explanation about why Birmingham has made the choices it has and the positive outcomes from that. 	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	September 2015

	Recommendation	Responsibility	Completion Date
R07	<p>That a report is brought to the Connectivity & Sustainability O&S Committee on Household Recycling Centres (HRCs), their future and the options, with a view to the Committee undertaking a short piece of work on new HRCs in the city.</p> <p>The Committee's work will consider options for improving access to current HRCs, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening hours; • Actions to reduce queues and congestion • Allow waste and recycling to be delivered on foot <p>It should also address how the number of HRCs in the city might be increased, particularly with regard to smaller, more local, sites.</p>	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	September 2014
R08	<p>Progress towards achievement of these recommendations should be reported to the Connectivity & Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Committee no later than December 2014. Subsequent progress reports will be scheduled by the Committee thereafter, until all recommendations are implemented.</p>	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	December 2014

MOTION

That the recommendations summarised in Chapter 6 of the attached report be approved, and that the Executive be requested to pursue their implementation.

Report of:	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment
To:	Waste Task and Finish Group
Date:	19th April 2017

Progress Report on Implementation: From Waste to Resources

Review Information

Date approved at City Council:	I July 2014
Member who led the original review:	Councillor Victoria Quinn
Lead Officer for the review:	Emma Williamson
Date progress last tracked:	11 Dec 2015

1. In approving this Review the City Council asked me, as the appropriate Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment, to report on progress towards these recommendations to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
2. Details of progress with the remaining recommendations are shown in Appendix 2.
3. Members are therefore asked to consider progress against the recommendations and give their view as to how progress is categorized for each.

Appendices

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3	Recommendations tracked previously and concluded

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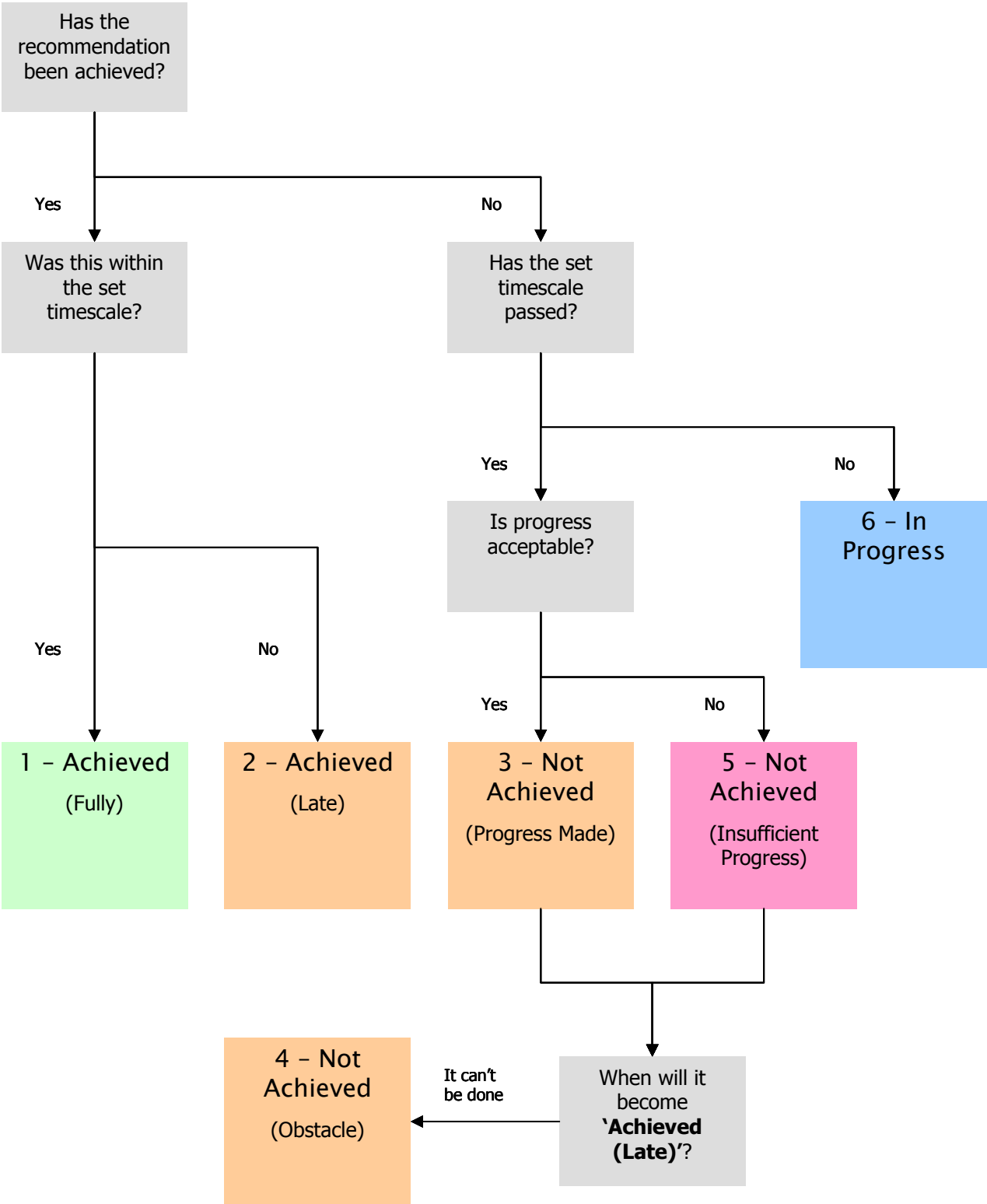
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The Tracking Process



Appendix 2: Progress with Recommendations

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R01	That a wide-ranging exercise to engage Birmingham citizens in the creation of the new strategy is undertaken; utilising the principles set out in the District & Public Engagement O&S Committee's report "Citizen Engagement".	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	September 2015	2-Achieved (late)
Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')				
<p>The progress report of the 11th December 2015 outlined our plans for consultation and this consultation was undertaken in July 2016 with 446 responses received. In summary the responses told us :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Typically 9 out of 10 respondents agreed or strongly agreed with each of the eight strategy aims. Support was for reduce and reuse versus energy recovery High support for 70% target for recycling by 2030 but challenges that it should be higher and achieved sooner Highest level of disagreement was around the target to reduce the amount of waste generated per person by 10% by 2020. The main reason that this was not challenging enough. 				
No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R02	A clear evidence base is established to underpin the new strategy. This should include on-going analysis of waste and recycle collected.	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	September 2015	2-Achieved (late)
Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')				
<p>Research was undertaken and reported on in June 2016 which included a kerbside waste composition analysis which has been used to underpin the new strategy. The survey was undertaken during a two week period in May and June 2016 and focused on the levels and composition of residual and recycling bins that are currently available for collection. The sampling regime involved the direct collection and analysis of 500 properties representing each of the thirteen main socio-demographic groups. In summary it highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food waste being a major component of residual waste forming 48% of the total Paper items made up 9% of the residual waste and 40% of this was recyclable Card and cardboard made up around 4.4% of collected residual waste and 78% of this was recyclable 16.9% of collected residual waste could have been recycled alternatively at the kerbside 				
No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R03	That a new Waste Strategy for the city is put in place. This should include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A guiding principle, or set of guiding principles, to ensure a coherent and transparent approach to any new waste 	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	March 2016	3-Not achieved (Progress made)

	disposal arrangements; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A waste prevention plan for the city; • A consideration of all waste streams in the city including a mechanism for reviewing and, where appropriate, including new technologies to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness 			
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Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

Given the scale and complexity of the detailed work required coupled with the impact of unforeseen organisational changes the Executive has had to revise the timescales for completion of the Strategy and it has not been possible to meet the original deadline set. That said work has continued on the Waste Strategy aligned to the procurement of the Waste Disposal Contract. Work streams include:

- A Waste Prevention Strategy which is due to be signed off in June 2017
- Feasibility study for a Materials Recycling Facility for the city, also June 2017
- Options for the collection of comingled waste will feed into this study
- A Handback and Procurement Strategy is being developed for consideration in the summer 2017

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R04	That a draft procurement plan to achieve the goals of the Waste Strategy is brought to the committee for discussion. This to include the following : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How income / financial efficiency will be maximised from the new approach. • How flexibility in future contractual arrangements will be achieved; • A statement on the role of Tyseley Energy from Waste (EfW) Plant will play and how opportunities to invest in Tyseley to improve both economic and environmental performance will be fully explored; and • How the City Council will be in a position to react to and employ new technologies in waste and recycling processing. 	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	November 2015	3-Not achieved (Progress made)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

As stated in the evidence of progress against R03 the Executive has had to revise the timescales for completion of the Waste Strategy and the associated procurement for the reasons stated. However work on the procurement strategy will continue throughout this year ready for the procurement to start in the autumn of 2017.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R05	As part of the management of the current contract, arrangements are made for a rigorous analysis of the Tyseley plant and site, to be conducted prior to the hand-over back to the City Council. This should include full inspection by appropriate experts to ensure that the plant and site are returned in accordance with the contract, and that any losses are fully accounted for	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	December 2017	6-In progress

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

Rigorous work is being undertaken to assess the condition of the site at Tyseley with the due diligence survey results due to be reported back in June 2017. Expert support is required and has been brought in to support this critical piece of work.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Original Date For Completion	Cabinet Member's Assessment
R06	A revitalised waste communication plan is needed, taking into account the outcomes of the public engagement exercise in R01. This should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of communication options to ensure messages reach the widest possible audience; • More user-friendly detail about the destination of waste and recycling on the website; • Engaging with local Councillors to give them the resources to pass on key messages; • Engaging with local community groups/spaces (including schools, mosques, churches, community centres) to give them the resources to pass on key messages; • More information/explanation about why Birmingham has made the choices it has and the positive outcomes from that. 	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	September 2015	2-Achieved (Late)

Evidence of Progress (and Anticipated Completion Date if 'Not Achieved')

A communication plan has been developed having taken into account the activity carried out in R01 and consequently has not been achieved within the original timescale. A three-year campaign has been developed to help reshape attitudes and behaviour across the city with the aim of delivering cleaner, greener streets for all neighbourhoods, enabling citizens and community groups to play a greater part in achieving this. Local Councillors, community groups and schools have all been engaged. The campaign is based on a three pronged approach covering Education, Engagement and Enforcement

An outline of year one of the campaign is:

Zero Heroes (formerly the 3 Rs: Reduce, Re-use and Recycle)

- creating a brand identity (superheroes of the city)
- Two completed phases of activity (Community awareness raising, followed by schools and business-specific strand)
- Third upcoming phase transitions to year 2/3 of the campaign
- Focus shifts to behaviour change (from awareness raising)

Hubbub work

- Litter picks in the city centre (inc. social media videos)
- Phase 2 – due for rollout Q1 of 2017

Dedicated web content and proactive communications

- Animations to highlight good practice (how to use bins, report fly tipping etc)
- Seasonal:
 - Advent calendar (videos featuring reduce, re-use and recycle tips)
 - Christmas collections (adverts and social media)
 - Christmas tree recycling

Appendix ③: Concluded Recommendations

These recommendations have been tracked previously and concluded. They are presented here for information only.

concluded

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Date Concluded by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Tracking Assessment
R07	<p>That a report is brought to the Transport, Connectivity & Sustainability O&S Committee on Household Recycling Centres (HRCs), their future and the options, with a view to the Committee undertaking a short piece of work on new HRCs in the city.</p> <p>This should include options for improving access to current HRCs, including :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening hours;• Actions to reduce queues and congestion• Allow waste and recycling to be delivered on foot <p>It should also address how the number of HRCs in the city might be increased, particularly with regard to smaller, more local, sites.</p>	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	24 February 2015	1-Achieved (Fully)
R08	<p>Progress towards achievement of these recommendations should be reported to the Transport, Connectivity and Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Committee no later than December 2014. Subsequent progress reports will be scheduled by the Committee thereafter, until all recommendations are implemented</p>	Cabinet Member for Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment	24 February 2015	1-Achieve (Fully)

**REPORT OF THE TRANSPORT, CONNECTIVITY & SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
FROM WASTE TO RESOURCE**

1. FINDINGS

- 1.1 Since January 1994, the disposal contract for Birmingham's municipal waste has been contracted out to Veolia Environmental Services Birmingham (VESB) – an international recycling and waste management company. This is a 25-year contract, which has been varied on numerous occasions, and will terminate in January 2019.
- 1.2 There will be, therefore, an opportunity to change arrangements for the disposal of municipal waste, to design a modern, responsive waste to resource system, shaping how waste might become more of a resource for the city. Crucially it is now, in the five year period before the expiry of the waste contract that these important decisions need to be made.
- 1.3 The former Transport, Connectivity & Sustainability O&S Committee therefore set out to consider

What do we need to do to ensure Birmingham has the most sustainable
and efficient waste/recycling strategy post-January 2019?

2. FINDINGS

- 2.1 The Committee considered the factors and options for a future strategy that must be sustainable over future years; responsive over a significant period; and drive behavioural change for the public good. Within this period, the landscape will no doubt change beyond recognition (as it has over the past 25 years) in terms of the financial and commercial imperatives, environmental parameters and policy drivers that are key to any future strategy's sustainability. The Committee highlighted some of the key areas of challenge, and their interdependence.
- 2.2 The report considered the options for a future strategy, looking at what should be the focus of waste strategy post-2019; what should be done with the infrastructure already in existence (the Tyseley issue); what could the next phase of waste disposal and recycling operations look like; and what approach should be taken in terms of contracting with partners.
- 2.3 The opportunity afforded by the ending of the current waste disposal contract is that the city can reshape how waste is disposed of in the city. That means doing more than just refreshing the current Municipal Waste Strategy (due to expire in 2026). A fresh debate is needed on the content and direction of the strategy. It is also important to establish a clear guiding principle that set out what the city wants to achieve from its waste strategy, as this would ensure a coherent and transparent approach to any new waste disposal arrangements and provide a mechanism to negotiate the decision-making process.

- 2.4 A people-centred engagement exercise, built on where behaviours and requirements are now and how far things can be changed, is needed to underpin the principles in the new strategy, to involve the citizens of Birmingham in one of the local issues that concerns everyone.
- 2.5 The report recognises that Tyseley Energy from Waste plant is a key part of our waste disposal infrastructure and is the main contributor to assuring Birmingham's low rates of landfill. Retaining the plant will mean low capital costs for a further 15 years and would allow the City Council to progressively introduce newer technology and/or facilities to address the waste hierarchy, at a speed which could be most responsive to technological, environmental and municipal budget imperatives.
- 2.6 Another key finding was the need to enhance good customer services, education, information and communication, which are all important in driving up recycling rates. Waste-specific communications are not being approached strategically in Birmingham and could be improved. The diversity of Birmingham's communities should be recognised, and a targeted approach recognising this is the most cost-effective way of increasing participation. There is also a need to be better about telling the positive story of Birmingham's waste collection service – how it increases recycling and benefits in the city in economic and environmental terms.
- 2.7 The Committee also recognised the need to review the city's household recycling centres, and this will be pursued in the current municipal year.

3. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

	Recommendation	Responsibility	Completion Date
R01	That a wide-ranging exercise to engage Birmingham citizens in the creation of a new waste strategy (see R03) is undertaken; utilising the principles set out in the District & Public Engagement O&S Committee's report "Citizen Engagement".	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	September 2015
R02	A clear evidence base is established to underpin the new strategy. This should include on-going analysis of waste and recyclate collected.	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	September 2015
R03	That a new Waste Strategy for the city is put in place. This should include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A guiding principle, or set of guiding principles, to ensure a coherent and transparent approach to any new waste disposal arrangements; • A waste prevention plan for the city; • A consideration of all waste streams in the city including a mechanism for reviewing and, where appropriate, including new technologies to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness. 	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	March 2016

	Recommendation	Responsibility	Completion Date
R04	<p>That a draft procurement plan to achieve the goals of the Waste Strategy is brought to the committee for discussion. This to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How income / financial efficiency will be maximised from the new approach; • How flexibility in future contractual arrangements will be achieved; • A statement on the role the Tyseley Energy from Waste (EfW) Plant will play and how opportunities to invest in Tyseley to improve both economic and environmental performance will be fully explored; • How the City Council will be in a position to react to and employ new technologies in waste and recycling processing. 	<p>Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City</p> <p>Cabinet Member, Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement</p>	November 2015
R05	<p>As part of the management of the current contract, arrangements are made for a rigorous analysis of the Tyseley plant and site, to be conducted prior to the hand-over back to the City Council. This should include full inspection by appropriate experts to ensure that the plant and site are returned in accordance with the contract, and that any losses are fully accounted for.</p>	Cabinet Member, Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement	December 2017
R06	<p>A revitalised waste communication plan is needed, taking into account the outcomes of the public engagement exercise in R01. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of communication options to ensure messages reach the widest possible audience; • More user-friendly detail about the destination of waste and recycling on the website; • Engaging with local Councillors to give them the resources to pass on key messages; • Engaging with local community groups/spaces (including schools, places of worship, community centres) to give them the resources to pass on key messages; • More information/explanation about why Birmingham has made the choices it has and the positive outcomes from that. 	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	September 2015

	Recommendation	Responsibility	Completion Date
R07	<p>That a report is brought to the Connectivity & Sustainability O&S Committee on Household Recycling Centres (HRCs), their future and the options, with a view to the Committee undertaking a short piece of work on new HRCs in the city.</p> <p>The Committee's work will consider options for improving access to current HRCs, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening hours; • Actions to reduce queues and congestion • Allow waste and recycling to be delivered on foot <p>It should also address how the number of HRCs in the city might be increased, particularly with regard to smaller, more local, sites.</p>	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	September 2014
R08	<p>Progress towards achievement of these recommendations should be reported to the Connectivity & Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Committee no later than December 2014. Subsequent progress reports will be scheduled by the Committee thereafter, until all recommendations are implemented.</p>	Cabinet Member, Green, Smart & Sustainable City	December 2014

MOTION

That the recommendations summarised in Chapter 6 of the attached report be approved, and that the Executive be requested to pursue their implementation.