

**WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES VISITS - FEEDBACK**

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF MEMBER SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To provide feedback following the Committee's visit on 13 September 2018 to view the facilities to treat waste located at the South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Facility.
- 1.2 There will also be an opportunity to feedback on the visit of 30 October 2018 to consider issues relating to the collection of recyclable waste and the operation of the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) plant in Hartlepool.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership (STWWMP) is made up of Gateshead, South Tyneside, and Sunderland councils, and covers an area of 34,300 hectares with a population of over 624,000.
- 2.2 In 2007, a twenty-year Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy was agreed between the authorities in order to tackle the environmental and financial challenges.
- 2.3 Integral to this strategy was the building on Teesside of a dedicated energy-from-waste facility that utilises household waste from across the partnership area to generate electricity for the National Grid and thereby offer an alternative to the landfilling of waste. The facility is operated by waste management experts SUEZ as residual waste treatment contractor.
- 2.4 Three waste transfer stations (one in each partner authority area) were also redeveloped to facilitate the delivery of waste to the facility.

**3 Current Position**

- 3.1 On 13 September, the Committee visited the waste facility South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Facility based at Billingham, Teesside. A supplementary visit was also made to the Jack Crawford House waste transfer station.
- 3.2 The visit included a full guided site tour of the facilities available and demonstrated the various stages of the energy-from-waste process and how Sunderland's household waste is treated in order to generate electricity.

- 3.3 Following the visit to Teesside, it was suggested that a further visit take place to look at the issues around the preparation of waste and recycling.
- 3.4 This visit is scheduled to take place on 30 October 2018 and will involve travelling to a selected number of residential locations to view the blue bins presented and employees working on collection day. The visit will also include travelling to J and B Recycling in Hartlepool to view the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) plant and discuss its operation with staff.
- 3.4 Members are asked to share their impressions of the issues raised during the two visits.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 Members are asked to provide feedback on the visit.

#### **5 Glossary**

None

#### **6 Background Papers**

None

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