

6. 140 LITRE BIN ROLL OUT AND MULTI-OCCUPANCY RECYCLING

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services providing an update on the progress of the Sustainable Waste Service (140 litre landfill bin roll out) and the service plans for rolling out recycling services to those properties not yet on the alternate weekly collection service.

The Panel were advised that from 23 May 2016 through to 6 December 2016 Recycling and Waste Services had rolled out 140 litre bins over 10 distinct phases to 75,395 households in West Lothian and had removed all 240 litre and 360 litre grey bins in the process. This new service was introduced to encourage a behaviour change in the disposal habits of householders by restricting the size of the landfill container to one which would meet the needs of the majority of households.

The process of rolling out the containers built on lessons learnt during the roll out of the Food Waste programme in 2013 and 2015 as well as extensive reviews of other authority service changes relating to land fill bin capacity.

The aim of the service change were :-

- To divert material away from landfill;
- To improve recycling and participation in recycling;
- To increase the establishment through the creation of green jobs; and
- To deliver a net revenue saving.

The report then proceeded to advise the Panel on a review of the service changes made and also provided a series of graphs to demonstrate the overall success of the project in terms of increased recycling rates of both general waste and food waste.

The Head of Operational Services then provided the Panel with an update on collection services explaining that Recycling and Waste Services, in their drive to improve access to recycling facilities, had been continuing to roll out the alternate collection service to hard to reach households and flatted properties. The council currently had 3,093 properties out of 78,488 (4%) which were not able to access the basic alternate weekly collection. In the majority of cases this was due to the area not having the suitable infrastructure to store additional containers which were required to introduce recycling services.

The service had completed a review of the remaining properties and had met during November to agree an approach to tackle areas which could more easily switch to receive a recycling service. The introduction of these services was constrained by the available staffing resources as the service was currently fully engaged in the council-wide roll out of the 140 litre residual waste change over. Once these activities came to their

natural conclusion toward the end of Q4 2016-17 the service would redirect staffing resources to look at multi-occupancy recycling.

It was recommended that the Panel notes the contents of the report.

Decision

To note the contents of the report.