

Projects Update**SUMMARY**

This report provides an update on the Authority's Circular Economy, Carbon and joint working efficiency projects.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 1) *The Authority is asked to note the information within this report.*

1. Introduction - The West London Waste programme has been designed to deliver efficiency enhancement with a whole system, data-driven approach in line with our Mission and Purpose highlighted in our Business Plan.

The delivery of the projects is in conjunction with the constituent Boroughs to derive the greatest benefit from joint working in West London. We have established an Executive Board for each of our six key project areas, with Members and Environment Directors leading the following projects.

	Cllr	EnvDir
Data Management	Cllr Lavery (Hillingdon)	Dipti Patel (Harrow)
Smart Cities	Cllr Sheth (Brent)	TBC (Ealing)
HRRC transformation	Cllr Neden-Watts (Richmond)	Chris Whyte (Brent)
Food Waste	Cllr Costigan (Ealing)	Victoria Lawson (Hounslow)
Shared EPR funding plan	Cllr Lambert (Hounslow)	Ishbel Murray (Richmond)
Double Recycling infrastructure	Cllr Henson (Harrow)	Perry Scott (Hillingdon)

All of the six key project areas are designed to inform and deliver the long-term circular economy objective of the Authority.

Strategy on a page documents are being drafted for consultation with Members at Strategic briefings.

This report covers the main project updates with governance of the wider programme managed through the WLWA senior management team.

2. Data Management – officers are capturing data in the following areas to measure performance and inform efficiency projects:-

- Waste Composition Analysis (detailed in the Circular Economy report)
- Waste Data Flow (borough data reporting) is being provided for three of the six Boroughs with the offer to deliver this for all centrally.
- Collection service performance by round mapping
- HRRC – resource, performance, usage, vehicle movements, carbon
- Collections - routing data, diversion from residual, bin sensor/smart bin
- Waste Composition, food waste, kerbside capture rates
- Market and legislative drivers - Resources and Waste Strategy, mergers and acquisitions

3. **Smart Cities** The bin sensors project (ver.1) has been completed and it was proven that the sensors can provide valuable data. The project 2 will focus on working with boroughs to use the data to make demonstrable improvements and assess real world operational practicality (such as connectivity improvements, how easy it is to transfer sensors between services).

Bulky waste services have continued to perform in line with expectations and have delivered significant service benefits to both Hounslow and Brent. The service is used slightly differently in each borough; therefore, we are engaging with officers to establish the best procurement route and evaluation for the service to deliver the required benefits within each area.

4. **HRRC Transformation** The booking system is nearing completion of set-up, with a few remaining reports/dashboard visuals to be implemented in the coming weeks. WLWA are working with Pentagull to set-up a direct PowerBI plugin, which will speed up data analysis in the future

Abbey Road has been used as a test site for several HRRC improvements, including weighbridge software, diversion Performance Targets, reuse and community greening. Each of these initiatives is being worked on by officers to deliver business cases for potential rollout to partner boroughs where possible.

Officers are working on a new funding mechanism and area wide performance measure to help align the service with the strategic objectives in recycling, reuse and circular economy work. The mechanisms will be based on generating funds to help Boroughs deliver greater diversion of material.

5. **Food Waste** Six Borough food updates

- 5.1. **Brent** – Roystons have now delivered food caddies, liners and leaflets to the selected flatted properties operated by Brent Housing Management as planned. The flats above shops roll out is on hold for the moment due to routing working being required and streetscene changes.

Veolia are identifying the next lot of flats for the service to be rolled out to as well as providing an update on the communications. Brent are liaising with a housing management group that runs c.60% of the non BHM blocks to gain agreement for the roll out to them.

- 5.2. **Ealing** – Greener Ealing Limited has rerouted some of the existing rounds to create spare capacity to deliver the services to the phase 1 communal collections along with procurement of the containers required for this stage.

Targeted communications have been delivered along with a wider regional food waste public campaign.

- 5.3. **Harrow** – The areas for the new rollout of infrastructure are being identified, and additional surveys performed to inform container procurement. The Communications strategy has been drafted, and WLWA is working with the Harrow waste and comms teams to identify effective communications media and workshops for key touchpoint staff.

Officers have been connected with London Community Kitchen based in Harrow and are seeking to work with them at Circular Economy Hubs where food outlets are planned in line with the sites local demographics and usage.

- 5.4. **Hounslow** – The additional properties continuing to be brought on to the communal services are being routed using the smart data driven by the bin sensors work. This routing and expansion of the services will be supplemented by two additional vehicles and a service resilience review has been booked in with WLWA, LBH and R360 to understand the impacts of the driver shortage.

- 5.5. **Hillingdon** – Hillingdon have now successfully moved to a separate food waste collection service across the borough and have seen improving volumes since commencement. Further communications work is ongoing including work to identify round capture rates.

- 5.6. **Richmond** – Consultation with the service provider is ongoing, in order to deliver the extension to the current services. Officers have commenced bin store surveys with support from WLWA systems and services for the areas identified as phase one of the rollout.

Communications work is proceeding with both wider food waste messaging and identify effect materials and information for identified low performing rounds.

6. **Shared Extended Producer Responsibility Plan** - The project work has incorporated fund modelling and wider site, material and value chain analysis. The Authority has submitted a response

to the Plastic Waste Inquiry launched by the House of Commons Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (EFRA) Committee.

WLWA are currently performing rerouting work and round optimisation for London Borough Hillingdon across all services and the commercial/trade functions. The rerouting ensures an efficient service and is expected to form the basis of future efficiency measures flowing from the Extended Producer Responsibility system.

7. Double Recycling infrastructure Victoria Road food building is planned to be operational by end Q1 2022. This facility will provide a permanent tipping location for the food waste collected in the north of the region, as well as increasing the resilience of the bulky waste processing at the Victoria Road site.

Collection delivery points and transfer station capacity work is currently being worked up in conjunction with the existing HRRC services capacity and usage information. This work has been accelerated in order to identify potential alternative tipping locations for Ealing DMR to facilitate the refurbishment works at Greenford. This will be used to identify the potential need for site works and design a whole system logistics strategy to utilise the regional infrastructure more efficiently.

This includes medium term tipping options and is being included in the design of a larger facility to improve economies of scale and increase the value of the materials being handling in line with the projected collections systems.

WLWA are working with Hounslow officers to Value Stream Map opportunities for collections of recyclables and food from hard to manage properties such as flats above shops.

WLWA officers have worked with the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames to install the new weighbridge system that was trialled at Abbey Road at their Central Depot and the Townmead HRRC and transfer station. This system provides consistent data with the WLWA Abbey Road site and therefore has reduced the administration for collating tonnage data.

8. Circular Economy – detailed in the Circular Economy Report

9. Corporate Communication

The Communications Officer is continuing to work with and encourage collaborative working between the 6 Boroughs' Communications teams, such as food waste campaign video and the communications pack for Recycle Week 2021 campaign (focusing on promoting TRAIID's collection service which is now taking textiles & e-waste). The Team is also looking to run some campaigns leading up to COP26 to showcase the Authority's efforts in reducing its environmental impact and reducing carbon.

WLWA's new website development is underway: liaising with internal staff to gather requirements; refining the wireframes; content audits of the existing pages as well as the Boroughs (the new website due December 2021). WLWA's annual report, which aims to showcase WLWA initiatives and projects, is currently being finalised.

10. Carbon Plan

Following on from switching the Authority's gas contract to a 'green gas' supply, WLWA has now also switched its electricity contracts to renewable/REGO certified energy contracts for both Abbey Road and the West Drayton office. These contracts were secured with an anticipated annual saving of approx. £7,600. An EV charging point at Abbey Road is being planned (one is already installed at West Drayton) to make sure our electric van can be charged with green energy. The Authority has now signed up to a Cycle to Work scheme via Green Commute Initiative. Further guidance and support will be provided to all staff.

Partners are being engaged to work together with WLWA to reduce the environmental impacts of our operations. Sustainability is now a standard agenda item for the Suez contract meetings.

11. Land projects – WLWA officers are working on several land projects in order to maximise the return on assets and the long-term sustainability of sites for the Authority.

WLWA officers are working with the WLA and Boroughs to identify potential sites for the locations of circular economy hubs.

12. Risk – Project specific risk is highlighted in the Appendices. There have been submissions for the

EPR and DRS consultations, but there are still further consultations and a revised timetable for new legislation. The potential impacts from the Resources and Waste Strategy are being factored in during the development of all projects.

13. Financial Implications – The renegotiation and extension of the sensor project has resulted in a net saving against budget enabling us to bring forward the investment in other projects whilst remaining within budgeted spend.

During Budget setting we had not priced for the reception and bulking of Ealing DMR however we are seeking to price this to result in a net zero impact, should this service be required.

14. Staffing Implications – To deliver the wide-ranging change programme for the Authority and the member boroughs, the Projects Team has changed to the Projects and Circular Economy Team. This new combined function will build on the work done by the Waste Minimisation Team and incorporate the Carbon function to increase the resources available to design and deliver the changes required to the whole waste system to create a sustainable Circular Economy in the region.

15. Health and Safety Implications – All fieldwork has been risk-assessed for the tasks to be completed and have had additional Covid-19 controls included in the mitigation measures where required.

Additional Health and Safety training is being planned for the team to ensure all members are informed to a standard to help raise awareness on site visits.

The acceptance of DMR materials through the Abbey Road site from Ealing may provide an increase in risk on site due to the increased volumes and composition. This will be fully risk assessed and include mitigations such as additional plant for handling and removing/picking contamination prior to loading on site.

16. Legal Implications - None

17. Joint Waste Management Strategy

The projects mentioned in this report are intrinsically linked to the Authority's Joint Waste Management Strategy. The projects are driving the design of the new policy through data, best practice and identification of opportunities, as well as delivering change to meet the desired outcomes and targets in the Strategy.

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Appendix 1 - Projects list and Status

Number	Project	Data Management	Smart Cities	HRRC transformation	Food Waste	Shared EPR funding plan	Double Recycling infrastructure	RAG
1	Brent Food Waste							
2	Ealing Food Waste							
3	Harrow Food Waste							
4	Hillingdon Food Waste							
5	Hounslow Food Waste							
6	Richmond Food Waste							
7	School Food Waste							
8	Absorbent hygiene products							
9	Solar PV at sites							
10	Smart bin housing							
11	Bulky Waste Service							
12	Bin Cleaning Station							
13	Food Waste data dashboard							
14	CCTV @ Abbey Rd							
15	Bin sensors							
16	Hillingdon Collections route optimisation							
17	HRRC Booking system							
18	Textile Strategy							
19	Abbey Rd redesign							
20	DMR and material brokerage							
21	Consistency Consultation							
22	EPR Consultation/Workshops							
23	DRS Consultation/Workshops							
24	Land Lease Victoria Road							
25	VR site redesign							
26	Transport Ave redesign							
27	Advertising board comms							
28	Website comms							
29	Waste Composition analysis							
30	Reuse/CircEco HRRC (bikes)							
31	CircEco Hub (Design)							
32	CEOG Green Recovery							
33	Grid balancing (Land lease)							
34	HRRC weighbridge update							
35	Data mapping (trend analysis)							
36	Circular economy external affairs stakeholder mapping							
37	WLWA data intelligence							
38	National waste data intelligence							