

NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

REPORT TITLE: SERVICES UPDATE

REPORT OF: HEAD OF STRATEGY AND SERVICES

FOR SUBMISSION TO: AUTHORITY MEETING

DATE: 7 FEBRUARY 2019

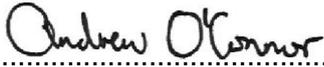
SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This report informs members about operational activities and associated issues dealt with by the operations team of the Authority from April to December 2018.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Authority is recommended to:

- A. Note the contents of this report.

SIGNED:  **HEAD OF STRATEGY AND SERVICES**

DATE: 28 January 2019

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The Authority receives an operational update at each Authority meeting. The first nine months tonnages are reported here (i.e. April-December). Specific events from Oct-Dec are reported and the full year's activity will be reported within the Annual Report at the Annual General Meeting in June.

2. OVERVIEW

- 2.1. Between April and December 2018, the volume of waste disposed of from the Authority's seven Constituent Boroughs was down slightly on the same time last year. There was a reduction of 0.079% from 443,255 tonnes to 442,901 tonnes. We continue to review actual volumes collected against the planned forecast for the year to track against the budget set.
- 2.2. There is a slight reduction in overall tonnes. The composition comprising household waste tonnages and boroughs estimated trade waste collection tonnages (based on the average of each individual boroughs annual trade waste declarations at October 2018) indicates a reduction in trade waste of 1,116 tonnes and an increase in household waste of 796 tonnes when compared to the same period last year. The growth in household waste is most likely attributable to new dwellings across the Constituent Boroughs.
- 2.3. Additionally, 121,732 tonnes of organic wastes and mixed dry recyclables were sent for composting, anaerobic digestion or recycling. This compares with 125,037 tonnes for the same period in 2017-18, representing a reduction of 2.64%. As mentioned in the December 2018 Services Report the main contributor to this reduction was green waste which was 2,026 tonnes lower compared to April-December 2017 (assumed to be attributable to the sustained period of hot weather during the summer) although reductions in mixed food and green (-464 tonnes) and food only (-737 tonnes) have also been seen. The chart below indicates the total organic waste tonnages and each organic waste stream comparing 2018 volumes with 2017 volumes.

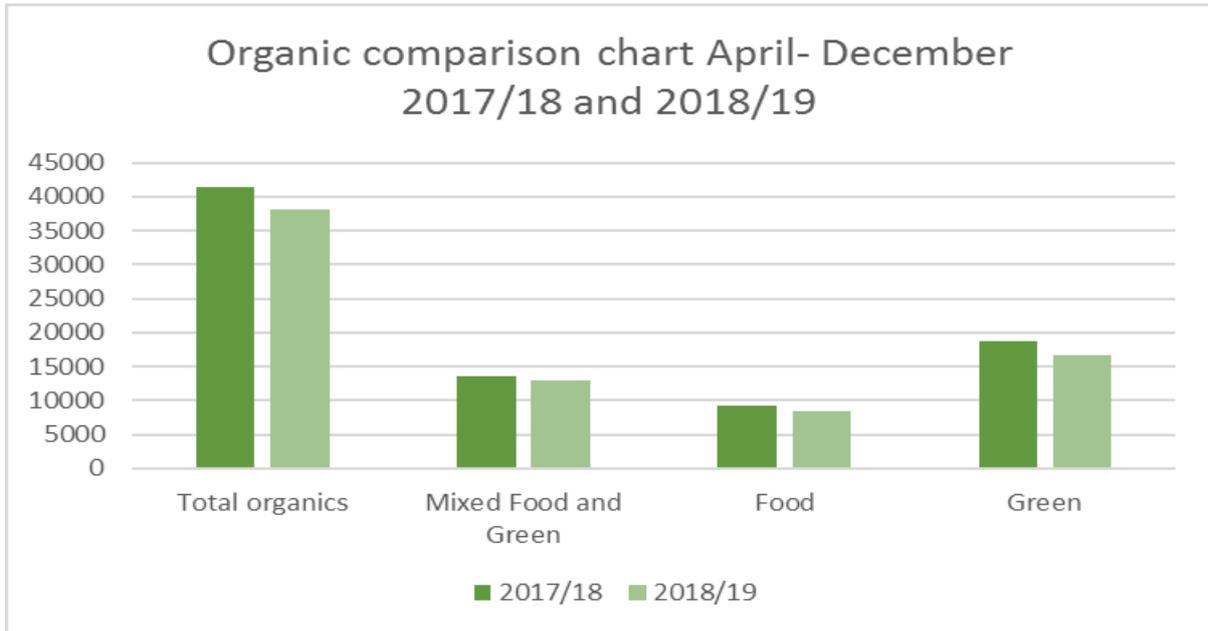


Figure 1: Organic Waste Comparison 2017/18 and 2018/19 April-Dec

2.4. As reported in the December strategy and services report the value of recyclates has increased from the second budget review to the third. Roughly 60% of the recyclates processed is mixed paper and card. As quarter three has progressed the value of paper has shown an increase but the value of card has shown a decrease. The values per tonne for these commodities are shown blue and red respectively in the chart below. These items represent a large proportion of recyclate by weight. Mixed can prices, have been stable all year. Mixed polymer prices have also shown a gradual decrease during the last quarter.

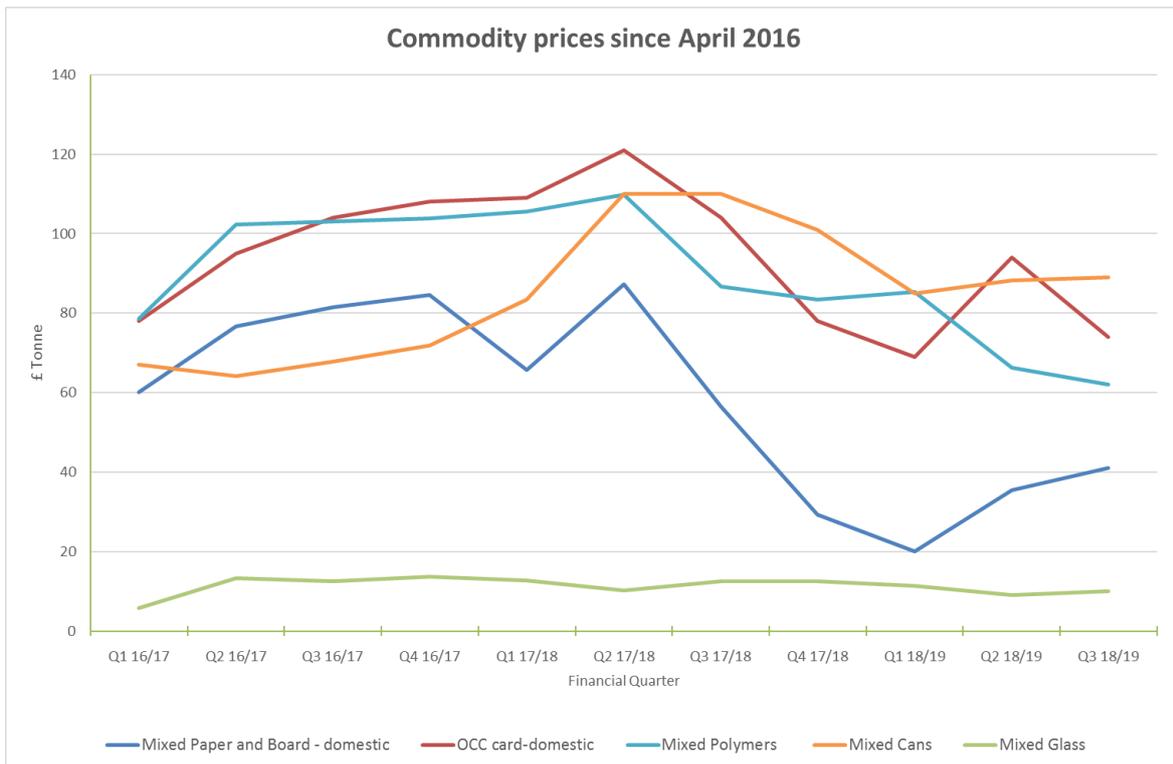


Figure 2: Commodity Prices Since April 2016

3. REUSE AND RECYCLING CENTRE (RRC) SERVICE – GENERAL UPDATE

- 3.1. During the period covered by this report, seven compliments and twenty six complaints relating to the RRC service operated by LEL have been received. Additionally five accidents and one near miss were recorded.

COMPLAINT TYPE	2017/18 NO OF COMPLAINTS	2018/19 NO OF COMPLAINTS
UNHELPFUL STAFF / POOR ATTITUDE	12	16
UNPLANNED CLOSURES	3	0
OPERATIONAL	2	5
OTHER	1	5
TOTAL	18	26

- 3.2. LEL have completed a review of the re-use and recycling centre service which has led to various personnel changes on site. With new staff and training within the service the number of complaints should reduce over time. Officers will continue to monitor this and ensure the service is improving to residents.
- 3.3. The provisional total waste arisings at the RRC's has decreased from 41,712 tonnes in 2017/18 to 36,831 tonnes in 2018/19. This is a decrease of 4,881 tonnes or 11.7%. The residual waste has decreased from 11,270 tonnes to 9,748 tonnes in that timeframe a reduction of 1,522 tonnes or 13.5%. The recycling rate has increased marginally from 72.98% to 73.53% even though the volumes of recyclates collected has decreased from 30,442 tonnes to 27,083 tonnes.
- 3.4. Further to the December report, officers visited two similar contracts in Surrey and Buckinghamshire with both recycling centres and re-use shops. Officers are working on the lessons learned from these visits and how to apply those to the contract with the contractors.

4. OTHER MATTERS

- 4.1. In November, the Authority was approached by Network Rail contractors to seek permission to use the compactor yard area of the waste transfer station at Hendon. The purpose of this was to use a large crane and transfer a number of storage

containers and welfare cabins to the trackside from the yard. Network rail are creating a welfare area for employees adjacent to Hendon, working on the King's Cross Development. The Authority granted a licence for the works to be completed on the 1st and 2nd of December.

- 4.2. Members will be aware that there are financial savings in delivering waste from Hendon to the EcoPark rather than sending to the Greatmoor Energy from Waste plant. Year to date 16,974 tonnes have been delivered and officers are encouraging LEL to deliver as much as practicably possible by the end of the financial year.

Operations over the Christmas Period

- 4.3. In December, LEL advised that due to planned track works carried out by Network Rail there would be no rail service to remove waste from the Hendon Rail WTS between 21 December and 3 January. LEL were able to plan and managed well the receipt and transfer of all wastes by road without any impacts to the service.
- 4.4. Services provided by both MRF contractors generally went well. However, just after New Year the bailer at the Bywaters MRF broke and was non-operational for three days. This coincided with the volume of material over the Christmas period at the BIFFA MRF increasing to a point that slowed deliveries into the site.

5. MATERIALS RECYCLING FACILITY UPDATE

- 5.1. In December, Members were advised that the Environment Agency has brought a case against BIFFA for alleged breaches of Waste Shipment Regulations. At this time there has been no further update. Officers will advise further when there are any developments in this case.
- 5.2. The responses to the Selection Questionnaires were received for the new Mixed Dry Recycling MDR Contract on the 19th December. The questionnaires have now been evaluated and tenderers are invited to submit their initial tender submission with a deadline of the 22nd February. Officers will report on progress in the next meeting.
- 5.3. As part of the Resources and Waste Strategy the Government will consult on a consistent set of materials that Local Authorities should collect during the next spending review. Currently the NLWA manage on behalf of 6 of the 7 Constituent Boroughs the Mixed Dry Recyclables paper, cardboard, aluminium and steel cans, plastic bottles, pots tubs and trays, glass plus the separately collected green waste, food waste and mixed organics.
- 5.4. As part of the new procurement process for the MDR contract the Authority consulted with the Greater London Authority over the materials proposed to treat on behalf of the Boroughs. The Authority is compliant with their requirements of the 6 materials to collect as listed above for MDR. Within the tender documents the Authority has allowed itself the flexibility to vary the contract should the core set of materials change or how they are collected over the term of the contract.

6. WASTE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (WEEE) SERVICES

- 6.1. Officers are currently awaiting final receipt of the signed contract. European Recycling Platform ERP are finalising the sub-contracts with suppliers to ensure full compliance with obligations in the contract.
- 6.2. Officers are currently working on a communication plan to advertise the Clearabee kerbside collection scheme in Boroughs where participation rates are lowest.

7. NEW INITIATIVES

- 7.1. As part of projecting the tonnages for next year's budget, Authority Officers met with each of the 7 constituent Boroughs to review tonnages and identify any significant changes in services that may affect the budget a departure from previous years.
- 7.2. The Strategy and Services team are reviewing the ways they collect and review data, with a view to creating key metrics to report and work towards going forward.
- 7.3. Workshops with Boroughs on how to increase efficiency and consistency of creating data for Waste Data Flow.

8. STATISTICS ON WASTE MANAGED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN ENGLAND IN 2017/18

- 8.1. In December the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) released the statistics on waste from households, household waste and local authority collected waste. Nationally the recycling rate increased marginally from 44.9% to 45.2% in 2017/18. The waste from households decreased from 412kg in 2016 to 403kg in 2017. Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) has also declined from 26.3 million tonnes to 25.6 million tonnes in 2017. In the North London Waste Authority area the recycling rate was 31.2% in 2017/18 a decrease of 1% on 2016/17 figures. The household waste collected per person has continued to decline from 343.6kg to 334.9 kg over the period. Local authority collected waste also declined from 845,776 tonnes to 830,955 tonnes.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1. The Authority is recommended to:
 - 9.1.1. note the contents of this report;

10. COMMENTS OF THE LEGAL ADVISER

- 10.1. The Legal Adviser has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no comments to add.

11. COMMENTS OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISER

- 11.1. The Financial Adviser has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no comments to add

List of documents used:

WasteDataFlow - national web-based waste data system

Available at <http://www.wastedataflow.org/>

Department of Environment Food & Rural Affairs: Statistics on Waste Management by Local Authorities in England in 2017/18. Available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/763191/LACW_mgt_annual_Stats_Notice_Dec_2018.pdf

Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England, HM Government, 18 December 2008,

Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/Government/publications/resources-and-waste-strategy-for-england>

Contact officer:

Andrew O'Connor Head of Services & Strategy

Mark Partlett Contracts Manager

Unit 1b Berol House

25 Ashley Road

London N17 9LJ

020 8489 5732

andrew.oconnor@nlwa.gov.uk