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**London Borough of Enfield**

**Environment and Climate Scrutiny Panel – Tuesday 14 March 2023**

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**Subject:** Waste & Recycling Performance

**Cabinet Member:** Cllr Rick Jewell

**Executive Director:** Sarah Cary

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**Purpose of Report**

1. To inform the panel and discuss waste and recycling performance and plans to increase recycling rate in Enfield.

**Relevance to the Council Plan**

2. Increased recycling performance can contribute positively to our strategic goals of making Enfield a healthier and greener place by providing services that can allow people to take greater responsibility for how they manage their waste and encourage recycling, composting and assist with meeting our ambitions for a clean green environment as stated in our Corporate Plan.

The proposal should also be able to contribute to wider, identified public health outcomes by contributing to the creation of conditions in the borough where healthy lifestyle and healthy living can be set in the correct context.

**Background**

3. Every tonne of waste recycled saves the Council around c.£85-90<sup>1</sup>. These savings can be realised from diverting waste from the residual waste stream to the dry recycling stream. Every 1% of refuse diverted to recycling would save c.£85,000-95,000 per year<sup>2</sup>

The waste and resources sector is currently undergoing significant changes with regards to legislation. The requirements under this new legislation are around increasing recycling in communal situations for example, adopting more circular economy approaches, and enhancing the service offering to residents. The Council has set out its commitment to meeting the new requirements in its Reduction and Recycling Plan<sup>3</sup>; which is a requirement of the Mayor of London's London Environment Strategy.

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<sup>1</sup> At time of writing, February 2023

<sup>2</sup> Depends on fluctuating market waste and recycling costs

<sup>3</sup> [Enfield Reduction and Recycling Plan - London Datastore](#) – publicly available version of the Reduction and Recycling Plan.

Initial focus was to reduce contamination at kerbside. Ensuring that the recycling collected from kerbside properties is of good quality, by minimising contamination levels allows maximum recycling opportunities. In preparation of the Govt. requiring recycling from flatted properties and providing potential funding to support this the other focus was piloting initiatives at flatted properties. The next primary focus is to increase kerbside recycling; 89,000 households have kerbside recycling, this area of focus allows a bigger reach, and bigger impact. Diversion of waste is easier and quicker for these households, compared to other housing types such as flatted properties or flats above shops.

The secondary focus will be to deliver complementary initiatives, such as maximising recycling from other services, recycling on the go and circular economy projects. These projects supplement the kerbside initiatives; they explore offering reuse and recycling opportunities for residents and businesses that are essential for changing behaviours. These complementary projects would create a network of reuse and recycling outlets within Enfield achieving the authority's strategic goals of further increased recycling.

### **Main Considerations for the Panel**

4. To consider the initiatives/focus to increase the recycling performance in Enfield.

### **Conclusions**

5. Waste Services Team will work towards optimising Enfield's recycling performance and reduce waste; and provide vital services to residents, such as outreach and education of residents, including children, to change resident behaviours and achieve Enfield's environmental goals.

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Appendices: 23.03.14 – Environment & Climate Scrutiny Panel (Waste & Recycling Performance)