

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template

Committee:	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
Date:	18 th October, 2021
Subject:	Waste Steering Group with WRAP
Purpose of Report:	Nomination of a Corporate Scrutiny Committee Member to serve on the Waste Steering Group with WRAP Cymru
Scrutiny Chair:	Cllr Aled Morris Jones
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Bob Parry (Portfolio Member for Highways, Property & Waste Management)
Head of Service:	Huw Percy, Head of Service for Highways, Waste and Property
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Local Members:	Relevant to all Scrutiny Members

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1 - Recommendation/s

R1 The Committee is requested to nominate 1 Member to serve on the Waste Steering Group with WRAP Cymru.

2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

- The work contributes to the aim of the Council Plan "to work in partnership with our communities to enable them to deal effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment".
- In September, 2020 we declared a climate crisis and made a commitment to become a zero-carbon local authority by 2030.
- Welsh Government has set high recycling targets for Local Authorities - the Towards Zero Waste Strategy calls on Authorities to achieve recycling rates of 64% by 2019/20 and 70% by 2024/25.

3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members

To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-

- 3.1** Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen]
- 3.2** A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value]
- 3.3** A look at any risks [focus on risk]
- 3.4** Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality]
- 3.5** Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:
 - Long term

- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement

[focus on wellbeing]

3.6 The potential impacts the decision would have on:

- protected groups under the Equality Act 2010
- those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (when making strategic decisions)
- opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

[focus on equality and the Welsh language]

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

Not applicable.

5 – Background / Context

1. Background

1.1 At its last meeting¹, the Committee discussed the Council's Quarter 1: 2021/22 performance against national and local performance indicators. Performance Indicator 32 from the Scorecard was highlighted - Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted which is currently underperforming (64.5% against a target of 70% for the Quarter). A steering group has been established to mitigate the current underperformance - a copy of the terms of reference is attached (**Appendix 1**). Membership includes senior Members, senior officers and partners from the Welsh Local Government Association and WRAP Cymru. The aims of the Steering Group are summarised below:

- Evaluate current working practices
- Identify how best to improve performance against the performance indicator that is underperforming and work towards the targets set by Welsh Government by 2025

1.2 The Executive² during its discussion on Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 1: 2021/22 resolved as follows regarding membership of the Waste Steering Group with WRAP Cymru:

“**[RESOLVED]**to nominate a representative from the Corporate Scrutiny Committee to be a member of the newly established Steering Group comprising the WLGA and WRAP Cymru to examine recycling and green waste issues.”

6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]

Not applicable for this issue but will be considered as an integral part of preparing for specific proposals to be submitted for consideration by the Committee.

6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010

¹ Corporate Scrutiny Committee convened on 13th September, 2021

² The Executive convened on 27th September, 2021

6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)

6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

7 – Financial Implications

Not applicable.

8 – Appendices:

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference of the Waste Steering Group with WRAP Cymru

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

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Isle of Anglesey County Council

Performance and Efficiency Programme Board

Board Terms of Reference

Project Background

The Performance and Efficiency programme has been developed by WRAP and WLGA as a way of supporting Welsh local authorities to identify and prioritise the key strategies, policies, and interventions necessary to achieve high recycling and Circular Economy ambitions in the most cost-effective manner.

The programme is intended to work in three broad phases:

- A summary report identifying current recycling and cost performance across a range of waste services. The authority's performance data can be compared with similar data from other Welsh local authorities. This report highlights potential areas for improvement, as well as any risks in current service provision (over-reliance on specific material streams, non-compliance with current or planned policy etc.).
- Joint agreement on specific, bespoke projects on areas of strategy or policy which the summary report identifies as being most impactful in realising gains in performance or efficiency, or moving the authority towards the Welsh Government's Circular Economy ambitions.
- Provision of a suite of options based on the outputs of Phase 2 projects. These outputs are intended to be costed and provide projections on likely performance improvements, as well as considering implementation timescales. Each authority can then use these to make its own decisions as to the best approach to optimising performance and efficiency.

Board Membership

Authority

- Cabinet Member for Environment – Cllr Bob Parry
- Cabinet Member for Finance – Cllr Robin Williams
- Director for Environment – Dylan Williams (Deputy Chief Executive)
- Head of Service for Waste – Huw Percy
- Head of Waste Management – Meirion Edwards
- Senior Finance officer - Anwen Cowling
- Service Strategy and Business Manager – Gwyndaf Parry

WLGA

- Craig Mitchell
- Jonathan Roberts
- Emma Shakeshaft

WRAP

- Emma Hallett
- Lisa Chilcott
- Owain Griffiths
- Alex Ross
- Iwan Pierce

Board Commitments

The Board will have members from the authority, WRAP CCP and WLGA. The board itself is intended to be flexible, and only involve members as and when the remit of their respective roles require it. For example, while elected members and senior managers will not be expected to attend meetings that require detailed technical input, they will be supported in understanding the drivers behind the work so that they can steer progress and assess outputs. The purpose of board meetings should be output focussed and therefore happen when most needed, rather than at pre-determined points during the year.

Each organisation acknowledges that they each intend to act in accordance with the following key principles:

- To work together in a spirit of mutual trust, support and respect, and to ensure that when difficulties or differences of opinion arise, they are addressed quickly, honestly and openly.
- The Performance and Efficiency review is a collaborative programme of work, and WRAP and WLGA will engage with the Council to tailor a programme of support to align with the legislative, political, and economic requirements of the Council.
- The authority will make all reasonable endeavours to use the support in a timely way, both in requesting the support and in acting upon information provided.
- All organisations will maintain regular communication regarding project progress and notify one another of any material change in circumstances that may affect the provision or use of the support, or the results that the support is provided to achieve.
- All parties will work together to seek ways in which the aims of the project, as defined by the Programme Board, can be achieved.

Board Administration

Owing to the nature of the project and the need for the project team and the Programme Board to be as responsive as possible, the following administration approach will be followed as far as is practical.

- Meetings will be convened as necessary to meet the project requirements; however only the relevant members of the board will be requested to attend each meeting. Senior managers and elected members will only need to attend key meetings where strategic decisions are required, or project outputs to be presented/discussed. The board will therefore have a Programme Group of CCC officers, along with WLGA and WRAP, which will undertake the bulk of the work and report back to the board at key milestones
- Project Manager/s will send an agenda 1 week before the meeting date.
- Papers must be submitted to the members no later than 2 days before.

- The Project Manager/s will prepare a briefing note and actions to be circulated and saved to a shared space.

Board Remit

The remit of the Board is to:

- take ownership and management oversight of the Performance and Efficiency project to ensure it is delivered on time and within the remit.
- provide decisions that are jointly escalated to the Board by officers/WLGA/WRAP.
- ensure the project delivers the policy requirements of the Council.
- ensuring the outputs are transparent and understood.

Board Responsibilities

These are the joint responsibilities of the Board Members.

- To make key decisions on the start and rollout of the project.
- Agreeing the communications protocol to ensure that smooth running of the project. Setting meeting frequency for control.
- Making decisions on matters escalated by the Project Manager/s.
- Allocating sufficient resource needed for all key workstreams to meet the accepted timescales as identified in the project plan.
- Determine delegated powers for the Project Manager/s.
- Approving the overall project plan and individual workstream plans.
- Decide on the acceptable level of risk associated with the project actions. Monitoring the mitigation of the risks.
- Approving completion of each stage of the project and ensuring the project is running properly within any delegated powers.
- Monitoring the progress of the project.