

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Government Waste Strategy Delivery Wednesday 28th May 2025

Report of Chief Officer – Environment & Place

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Overview and Scrutiny to consider the implications of the implementation of the Government's waste strategy in their work programme and make appropriate policy recommendations to Cabinet.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATION

- (1) Overview and Scrutiny to consider the implications of the implementation of the Government's waste strategy in their work programme and make appropriate policy recommendations to Cabinet.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting, held on 20th May 2025, Cabinet considered the waste strategy. The report to Cabinet is appended to this report. After considering the report Cabinet resolved:

- (1) That in order to deliver the outcomes required by the national waste strategy, and having taken into account a range of factors including the need to reduce waste, increase recycling, provide a service that meets the needs of our residents and that is financially viable, Option 2 as set out in the report, be agreed as the delivery model for waste collection from 31st March 2026.
- (2) That having approved Option 2 as the delivery model Cabinet approve the capital investment of wheelie bin recycling as included in the development section of the Capital Programme, with a provisional operation commencement date of 1st April 2026.
- (3) The proposals included in the report have been arrived at to ensure the Government's waste strategy is implemented within the financial and operational context of the Lancaster District. They also seek to reduce the overall quantity of household waste, to increase the proportion of household waste that is recycled and to maximise our eligibility for relevant Government funding in the future. They are underpinned by extensive analysis, due diligence and appropriate consultation.

It is very much recognised that prior to actual implementation, from April 2026, there will be a need for agreement of local policy with regard to specific waste collection issues. As such it is recommended that -

- (a) The Portfolio holder and Chief Officer lead the formation of a waste collection policy implementation group (consisting of cross party members and appropriate officers) to report back to report its recommendations back to Cabinet in the autumn. This group will develop a terms of reference that will include engagement and consultation with residents and service users.
- (b) Overview and Scrutiny Committee will have a report and presentation on this matter at their meeting on 28th May. Cabinet further invites Overview and Scrutiny to consider the implications of the implementation of the Government's waste strategy in their work programme and make appropriate policy recommendations to Cabinet.

1.2 The Chief Officer – Environment and Place will provide a presentation to the Committee and there will be an opportunity for questions.

RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK
As detailed in the report to Cabinet.
CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)
As detailed in the report to Cabinet.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS
As detailed in the report to Cabinet.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
As detailed in the report to Cabinet.
OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
As detailed in the report to Cabinet.
SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS
The s151 Officer has been consulted and his comments are set out in the report.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS	
As detailed in the report to Cabinet.	
BACKGROUND PAPERS	Contact Officer: Will Griffith Telephone: 01524 582841 E-mail: wgriffith@lancaster.gov.uk