

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: New Delivery Vehicles and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 4 September 2014
Report of: Strategic Director of Commissioning
Subject/Title: Draft Waste Strategy 2030
Portfolio Holder: Service Commissioning Portfolio – Councillor David Topping

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 This report introduces the draft Waste Strategy 2030.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Committee examine the draft strategy and submit comments for consideration.

3.0 Wards Affected

- 3.1 All

4.0 Local Ward Members

- 4.1 All

5.0 Background

- 5.1 Cheshire East Council currently operates under a waste strategy that was prepared in 2007. The need to update this strategy arises from a number of issues:
- 5.2 In order to set up the objectives of Ansa Environmental Services Ltd and inform procurement decisions, the Council needs the direction of an overall waste strategy. Additionally this strategy will form the link between the strategic aspirations of the Council, the formation of Ansa's business plan and the final delivery of services. This in turn will inform and be informed by the Waste Local plan.
- 5.3 In addition, there is a need to build confidence in both the public sphere and waste management industry, that the Council has a considered and well thought out long term strategy for waste management. The industry needs to:
- Understand the strategic direction of the authority to inform its own decisions

- Have confidence in the future procurement of recycling and waste processing being undertaken as part of the Environmental Operations Major Change Programme.

6.0 Waste Strategy 2030 High Level Objectives Summary

6.1 The Waste Strategy has been created around 19 high level objectives that are grouped into 5 broad categories

- 6.1.1 Service delivery – covering quality and customer satisfaction levels and investigating opportunities for efficiencies through working with other waste collection and disposal authorities
- 6.1.2 Waste reduction and reuse – to make waste prevention, reduction and reuse a priority, seeking to reduce the total amount of household waste produced and to work to increase waste reuse activity amongst residents in partnership with the charitable and furniture reuse sector
- 6.1.3 Recycling – continue to exceed national targets for recycling, promote home composting and utilise energy generation to process kerbside collected organic waste to generate heat and power
- 6.1.4 Residual waste management – utilise waste that cannot be reused or recycled as a resource for energy generation helping to alleviate fuel poverty in the borough, reduce disposal to landfill to 0% and achieve 100% disposal to waste to energy generation
- 6.1.5 Working together – work in partnership with the commercial and charitable sectors to promote waste reduction reuse and recycling, continue to build and utilise the waste prevention volunteer network to promote waste education and awareness and work with schools and higher education establishments to promote waste prevention to the next generation.

7.0 Key milestones achieved

- Waste Strategy 2030 High Level Objectives agreed at the Environment PDG in summer 2013
- High Level Objectives accepted at Cabinet March 4th 2014
- Draft Waste Strategy started June 2014 – progress has included:
 - workshops to discuss a long list of options and then the shortlist – included Ansa board, Cllrs Topping and Livesley and senior Council officers
 - Statutory 5 week consultation on the Strategic Environmental Assessment with Environment Agency, Natural England and English Heritage

- 4 week public consultation with residents, Councillors – borough/town/parish, citizen’s panel, interest groups and partners. (765 responses)
 - 2 focus groups with residents and interest group representatives.
- Draft Waste Strategy 2030 now being considered by the New Delivery Vehicles and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8.0 Public Consultation summary

8.1 The survey respondents were in broad agreement with the Council’s high level objectives. See appendix for a brief summary of the responses.

9.0 Next Steps

- a. Complete the Waste Strategy incorporating changes that may have arisen from comments from the consultees
- b. Seek Cabinet approval for the Waste Strategy 2030 at the Cabinet meeting on October 14th 2014

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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Appendix

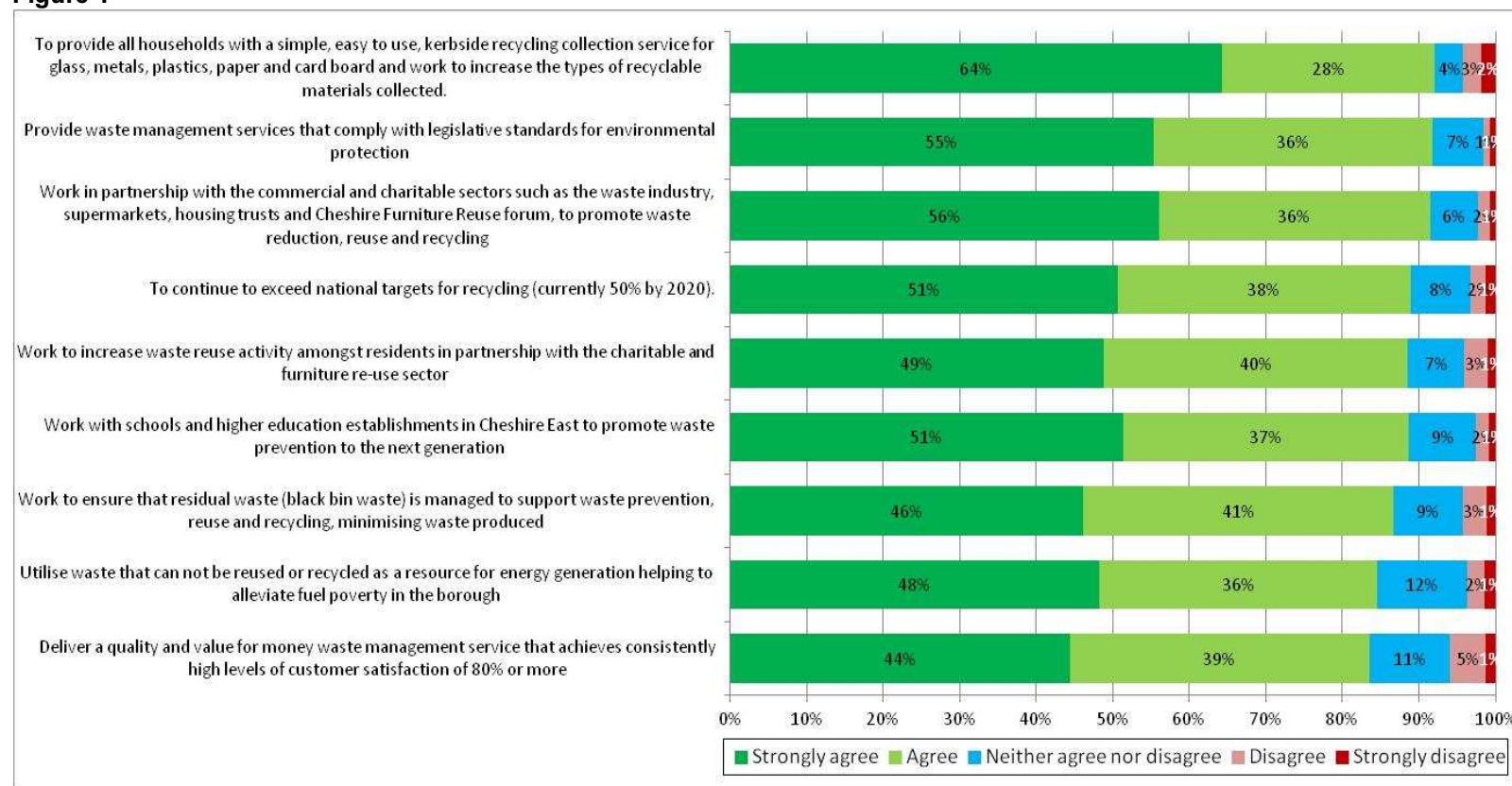
Summary report of Waste Strategy 2030 High Level Objectives Consultation

The survey ran from July 14th – August 11th 2014 and 765 people completed the questionnaire.

1. The consultees were asked how strongly they agreed or disagreed with the Council's high level objectives.

Figure 1, below, shows that over 80% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with 9 of the objectives. The highest levels of agreement were with the Council maintaining a simple, easy to use kerbside collection service, 92%.

Figure 1



2. Figure 2, below, shows that the percentage of respondents agreeing with the objectives declines from 80% (for waste to energy generation) to 53% for the creation of the wholly owned company. The proportion of respondents who disagreed with the objectives was consistently below 10% except for 3 of the objectives.

Figure 2

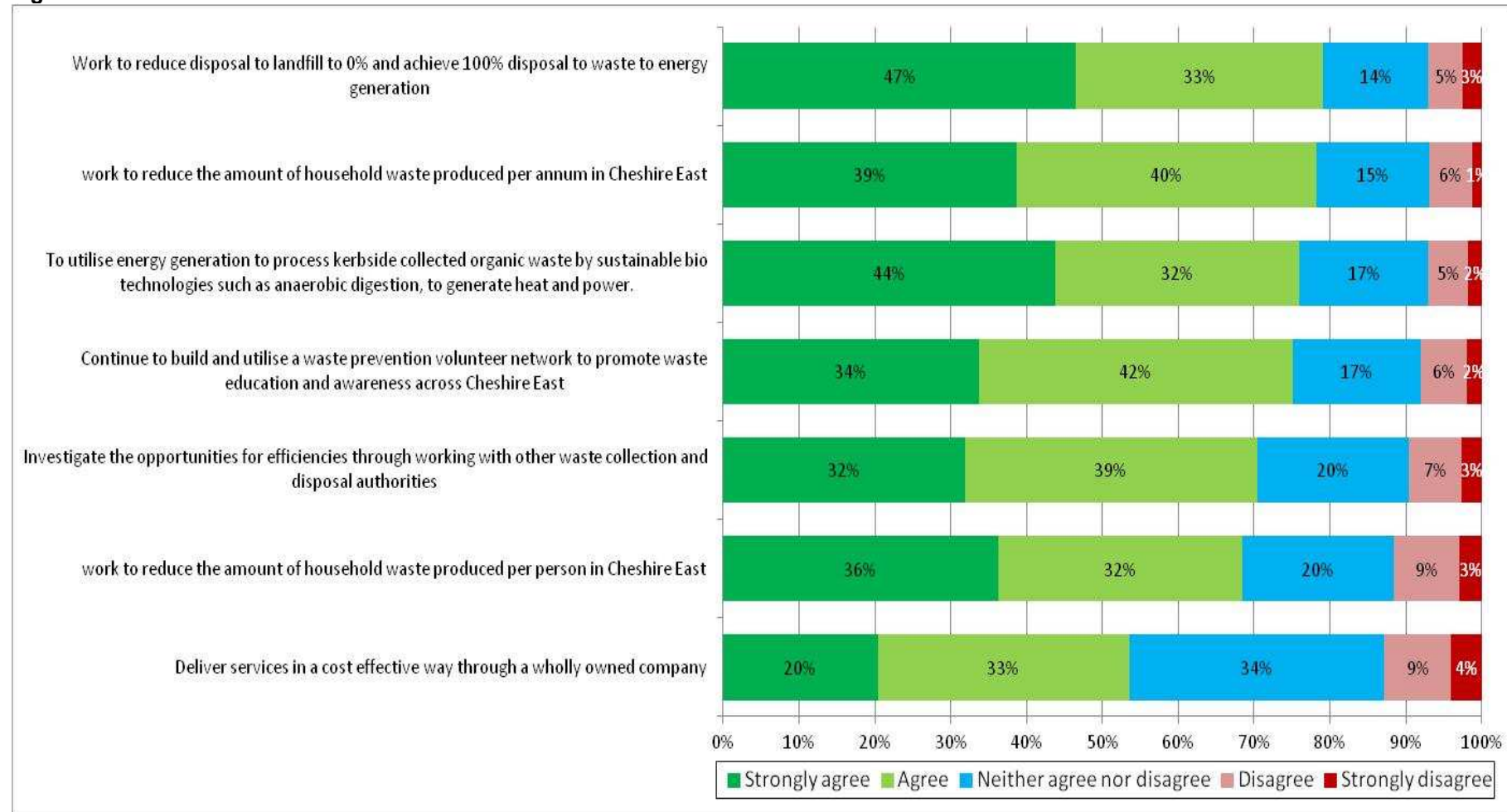


Figure 3

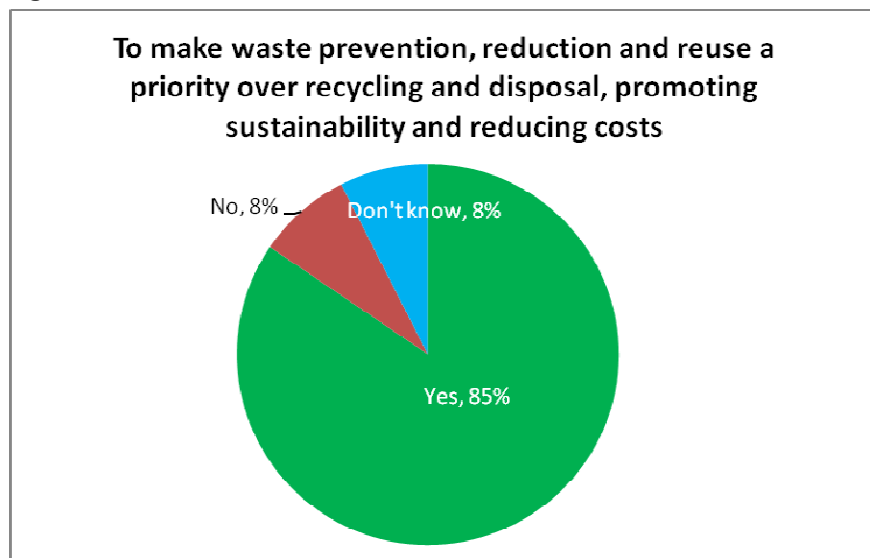
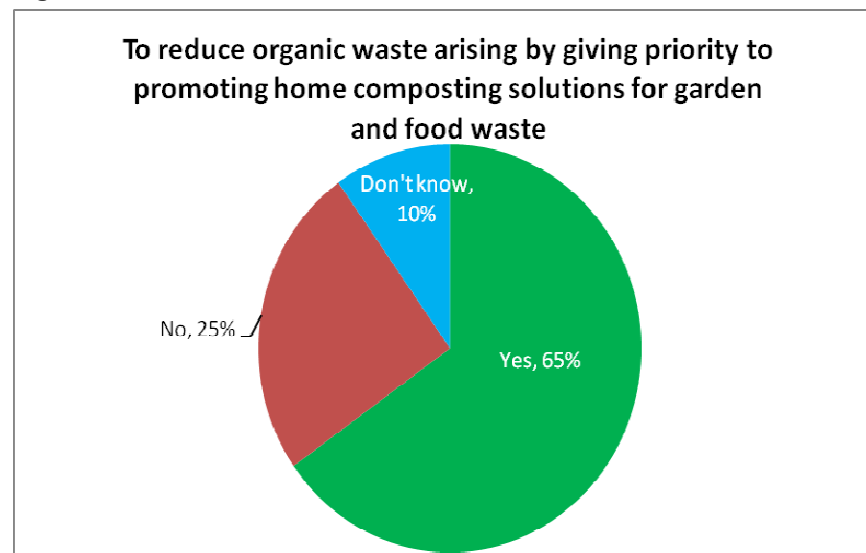


Figure 4



3. The vast majority of respondents (85%, figure 3) agreed that waste prevention, reduction and reuse should be a priority. A quarter (25%) of respondents did not think that the Council should seek to reduce organic waste by promoting home composting solutions (figure 4).

Conclusion

There was broad agreement by the majority of respondents to the Waste Strategy 2030 High Level Objectives and therefore we conclude that

- Respondents broadly approved of the objectives
- The objectives can be used as the core of the draft waste strategy.

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