



ST HELENS
BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

23rd September 2020

Report Title:	Council's Use of Paper and Plastics Task and Finish Group Report
Cabinet Portfolio	Environmental Services
Cabinet Member	Councillor Andy Bowden
Exempt Report	No
Reason for Exemption	N/A
Key Decision	No
Public Notice issued	N/A
Wards Affected	All
Report of	Cath Fogarty Executive Director of Corporate Services cathfogarty@sthelens.gov.uk 01744 676885
Contact Officer	James Morley Scrutiny Manager jamesmorley@sthelens.gov.uk 01744 676277

Borough priorities Please mark X for any priority supported by this report	Ensure children and young people have a positive start in life	
	Promote good health, independence and care across our communities	
	Create safe and strong communities for our residents	
	Support a strong, diverse and well-connected local economy	
	Create a green, thriving and vibrant place to be proud of	X
	Be a modern, efficient and effective Council	

1. Summary

This report presents the Council's Use of Paper and Plastics Task and Finish Group's report to Cabinet.

2. Recommendations for Decision

Cabinet is recommended to:

- i) Receive the Council's Use of Paper and Plastics Task and Finish Group Report for consideration;
- ii) Provide a response to the recommendations in the Task and Finish Group Report to be presented to the Place Services Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 24th November 2020.

3. Background /Reasons for the recommendations

- 3.1 The Environment, Regeneration, Housing Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel commissioned a task and finish group to review the Council's use of paper and plastics as part of its work programme for 2019/20. The Task and Finish Group carried out research and held several meetings with officers to develop its conclusions and recommendations as set out in the report. The Task and Finish Group's report was approved for submission to Cabinet by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 20th July 2020.
- 3.2 Since the report was approved the Council's Scrutiny Committee Structure has been amended, with responsibility for issues within the former Environment, Regeneration, Housing Culture and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Panel's remit now within the remit of the Place Services Scrutiny Committee. As such, Cabinet's response will go to the Place Services Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.3 The Council's Constitution provides rules regarding the submission of reports by Overview and Scrutiny to Cabinet and the provision of a response to reports by Cabinet; as set out in Sections 8 and 9 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules contained in Part 4 of the Constitution. In summary, the Constitution requires Overview and Scrutiny to submit reports to Cabinet, with a response from a member of the Cabinet, nominated by the Leader, and officers to be provided within one month of receiving the report.

3.4 This report to the Cabinet meeting on 23rd September 2020 acts as the submission of the report to Cabinet. The response of Cabinet will be presented to the Place Services Scrutiny Committee meeting on 24th November 2020 where the nominated Cabinet Member and Officers will be requested to present the response.

4 Implications

4.1 Legal Implications - The recommendations for Cabinet to consider this report and provide a response adheres to the rules within the Constitution and comply with legislation relating to overview and scrutiny as outlined above.

4.2 Community Impact Assessment (CIA) Implications

4.2.1 Social Value - It is noted that some recommendations within the report relate to the Council's use of (and therefore purchasing of) particular supplies and equipment which may have implications for local spending and procurement.

4.2.2 Sustainability and Environment - The impact on sustainability and the environment is dependent on which of the recommendations with the Task Group Report are accepted/supported by Cabinet.

4.2.3 Health and Wellbeing - It is unlikely that the recommendations within the Task Group Report, if accepted/supported by Cabinet, will have an impact on public health and wellbeing.

4.2.4 Equality and Human Rights – Equality and Human Rights implications will have to be considered if Cabinet chooses to accept and implement any of the recommendations within the Task Group Report. It is acknowledged within the Task Group Report that some of its recommendations, or the suggestions with the body of the report, could not be applied equally to all employees/customers of the Council given potential additional needs (such as use of certain technology or paper copies of documents for those with visual impairment needs or other disability).

4.3 Customers and Resident - Implications on the customer/resident have not been taken into consideration for the purposes of submitting the Task Group Report to Cabinet for consideration. Some of the recommendations in the Task Group Report may lead to changes in the way services are provided to customers/residents. These implications would need to be taken into consideration when Cabinet decides whether to accept/support any of the recommendations or not.

4.4 Asset and Property - The Task Group Report does not make direct proposals in relation to the Council's asset base or its occupation however some of the recommendations relating to ways of working within the Council may have implications for occupancy. However, these recommendations relate to strategies (such as agile working) that the Council is already developing/employing where consideration is being/has been given to the implications for the Council's asset base and occupancy already.

4.5 Staffing and Human Resource - Some of the recommendations within the Task Group Report would have workforce implications if accepted. Consultation with Senior HR Officers will need to take place if the relevant Task Group recommendations are accepted and implemented by Cabinet.

- 4.6 Risks - No risks have been identified within the Task Group Report. Consideration of risks should be carried out as part of Cabinet's consideration of the recommendations within the Task Group Report to inform the decision to accept/support the recommendations or not.
- 4.7 Finance - Some of the recommendations within the Task Group Report will have financial implications if they are accepted and implemented by Cabinet. These implications will need to be considered by Cabinet when deciding whether to accept/support the recommendations or not.
- 4.8 Policy Framework Implications - The Task Group Report includes some recommendations related to new or existing policies and strategies. If the recommendations are accepted/supported, then Cabinet and Officers will be required to develop new policies/strategies or update existing ones.

5 Background papers

Overview and Scrutiny Commission Agenda and Minutes of meeting held on 20th July 2020

6 Appendices

Council's Use of Paper and Plastics Task and Finish Group Report