

Report to: Environment Panel

Date: 19th March 2008

Subject: Recycling visit to Shotton Paper Mill and Kirkless site

Report of: Director of Environmental Services

Contact officer: Gail Robinson 01942 705127

Purpose / summary: To update members on the visit made to Shotton Paper Mill and Kirkless Household Waste Recycling Centre

Alternative options considered and reason for selecting the one recommended: The alternative was not to provide a visit for members, however, it is felt that benefit will be gained by visiting these facilities and better understanding the paper recycling process

Recommendation / decision: That members note the outcomes of visit to Shotton Paper Mill and Kirkless Waste Recycling Facility

Key Decision: This report does not involve a key decision.

Risks / Implications: N/A

Financial: None

Staffing: None

Policy: None

Equal Opportunities - Has a Diversity Impact Assessment been conducted? No

Wards affected: All wards have kerbside paper collections

Property Implications – Does the proposal involve a reduction, addition or change to the Council’s asset base or its occupation?

No

If yes, have the property implications been agreed with the Corporate Property Officer?

Does this proposal have significant implications for the Council and the local population?

A diversity impact assessment is not necessary at this stage, however, equality and diversity implications have been considered when producing this report.

Does this proposal involve a new policy or procedure or significant changes to an existing policy or procedure?

A diversity impact assessment is not necessary at this stage, however, equality and diversity implications have been considered when producing this report.

Has the Director of Legal and Property Services confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council’s Constitution? **Yes**

Has the Director of Finance and IT confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council’s budget? **Yes**

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council? **No**

For Cabinet reports only :

Categorisation of the report:	x
Discussion leading to a decision	
Monitoring	
Sharing for corporate understanding	

	x
Discussion	
Decision	
Information	

Tracking/Process:

	Consultation	Ward Members	Partners
Panel	Overview & Scrutiny	Cabinet	Council
19 th March 2008			

There are no Background Papers to this Report within the meaning of Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Proper Officer Martin Kimber

Date 29 February 2008

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Wigan Council introduced kerbside collection of paper to residents of the borough in 2003. Since this introduction, kerbside collections have been expanded to garden waste and cardboard and this has helped the Council achieve a 21.87% recycling rate in 2006/7. The kerbside collection of paper has in part, enabled Wigan Council to meet aims and objectives set in the Municipal Solid Waste Management Strategy, approved by Cabinet in October 2006, and meet statutory recycling targets.
- 1.2 Kerbside collection of paper is offered to all properties in the borough and in 2006/7 over 7,000 tonnes of paper were collected for recycling from kerbside collections.
- 1.3 Paper collected for recycling at the kerbside is taken to Kirkless waste recycling facility in Ince, before being “bulked up” and transported to Shotton Paper Mill in North Wales for re-processing.

2.0 Proposals

- 2.1 A visit to Kirkless Waste Recycling Facility and Shotton Paper Mill was made by members of the Environment Panel on 8th February 2008. Members were given a presentation by Shotton on the history of the site, a profile of Shotton and details of the current operations of the site. Electronic copies of this presentation were provided to members attending the visit. The presentation is available from Gail Robinson, Senior Waste Management Co-ordinator. Members were then given a guided tour of the paper mill.
- 2.2 Following the visit to Shotton members were given a tour of Kirkless Household Waste Recycling Centre, including the public access part of the site and the waste transfer station section.

3.0 Conclusions:

- 3.1 Members found the visits useful and expressed interest in visiting other waste facilities in the future. Officers will investigate the possibility of arranging further visits to waste facilities such as landfill sites and other recycling processing plants.
- 3.2 Following the visits members requested further information on recycling initiatives in place. An information pack was made available for each Environment panel member.

4.0 Alternative options considered and reason for the recommended option:

- 4.1 The alternative option was not to provide a visit for members, however, it is felt that benefit was gained by visiting these facilities and better understanding the paper recycling process.