

Memorandum of Understanding

Between the following partners:-

Ashfield District Council
Bassetlaw District Council
Broxtowe Borough Council
Gedling Borough Council
Mansfield District Council
Newark & Sherwood District Council
Rushcliffe Borough Council
Nottinghamshire County Council
Veolia ES Nottinghamshire Ltd

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is supplementary to the Nottinghamshire Waste Partnership Agreement and sets out the terms and understanding between all the above named partners to improve the quality of the co-mingled dry recyclables collected by the seven Waste Collection Authorities in Nottinghamshire.

Background

The Nottinghamshire PFI contract delivered a bespoke materials recovery facility in 2009 for Nottinghamshire County Council. This facility is designed to sort the following materials from kerbside collections:-

- Household newspaper and magazines
- Cardboard
- Plastic bottles, margarine tubs and yoghurt pots
- Food and drink cans and aerosols

The facility was designed to accept a waste stream that met the facility process requirements and was to contain less than 5% by weight of contaminants.

Since 2009 contamination levels have increased consistently each year reaching an average level of 12% in the most recent contract year to date.

Purpose

This MOU is a demonstration of commitment from all partners to deliver a single agreed protocol for the management of contaminated kerbside collections by all the Waste Collection Authorities in Nottinghamshire.

This protocol will be consistently applied by all Waste Collection Authorities and will be supported by all Officers and Elected Members.

The above goal will be accomplished by undertaking the following activities:

- A Contamination working group consisting of at least one representative from each partner authority will meet regularly and endeavour to implement an acceptable protocol for all Waste Collection Authorities.
- The contamination working group will meet monthly; Veolia will host the monthly meetings.
- The Waste Collection Authorities will take ownership of the localised implementation of the protocol.
- The Waste Collection Authorities will offer education to their residents and will endeavour to ensure that non-recyclable materials are not placed in the recycling bin.
- The Waste Collection Authorities will endeavour to educate their residents to transfer target recyclable materials from the residual waste container into the recycling container.
- Veolia will provide a suite of templates for communications materials (e.g. bin stickers, leaflet and bin tags) which may be utilised and distributed by the Waste Collection Authorities to ensure a consistent message to all residents within Nottinghamshire.

Reporting

A quarterly progress report will be presented to Joint Waste Management Committee and Joint Officer Board by the waste contamination working group.

Duration and Termination

The duration and termination arrangements for this supplementary MoU are as detailed in the Nottinghamshire Waste Partnership Agreement dated 17th April 2012

Countywide protocol

- Recycling bins will be checked by the collection crews before being emptied.
- Collection crews will not accept recycling side waste in bags.
- Collection crews will endeavour to reject any bins containing more than 5% contamination
- Contaminated bins will not be collected but will be tagged to identify that the bin does not contain only target recyclables. The tag will also show the relevant Waste Collection Authority contact details.
- Collection crews and/or residents will report contaminated bins so that the Waste Collection Authorities can engage and provide the 'Recycle for Nottinghamshire guide' which explains clearly the target recyclables which should be placed in the recycling bin.
- Waste Collection Authorities will permit one 'fresh start' collection which will be collected as residual waste.
- If a second contamination event occurs within a reasonable time frame the Waste Collection Authority will engage with the resident and endeavour to visit the property with a view to understanding the reason why a second contamination event has occurred. If a visit is not possible the Waste Collection Authority will utilise alternative methods to interact with the resident.
- Following this interaction a decision will be made on whether the recycling collection service should be withdrawn.
- If appropriate a section 46 notice will be issued to the resident.
- Veolia will continue with the programme of random sampling of loads - if contamination above 5% is found crews will be required to stay while the sampling takes place and the rejection procedure within the PFI Contract will then be followed.