

# COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OSC

## REPORT TO CABINET

13 OCTOBER 2020

### **Northumberland Waste Management Strategy – Proposed Trial of Kerbside Glass Collections**

Glen Sanderson, Leader of the Council and Paul Jones, Service Director Local Services presented the report to the Committee at their meeting on 7 October 2020.

The Committee supported the proposals in the report and took the opportunity to praise staff and managers within the waste service for the excellent work they have done, particularly given the problems presented during the last few months.

However, members did raise a number of issues which they asked that the Cabinet consider when it determines the report:

- communication was key to ensure that all residents living within the pilot area were aware of the scheme and what was required of them;
- concern that moving to a three weekly collection cycle for general/recyclable waste may create a challenge for some residents;
- note the challenges that may be presented by collecting differently coloured glass;
- note that not all households currently have bins of any sort and a hope that this may be further reviewed;
- acknowledge that although there was a cost in implementing this scheme, the decisions taken should be based on long term strategic planning, rather than opting for a cheaper solution. The Leader confirmed that the scheme was integral to realising the aims of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan;
- collection lorry crews were already operating in protective covid bubbles and would continue to do so;
- measures would be put in place to ensure that the noise associated with glass collection would be minimised as far as possible, including ensuring that staff were issued with ear defenders and appropriate protective clothing, and
- the Committee were keen to review the pilot scheme in around this time next year, prior to a decision on whether to roll out the scheme county-wide.

The Committee therefore **resolved** that, subject to the comments as set out above, the Cabinet be advised that the Committee supports the recommendations in the report.

**COUNCILLOR JEFF REID  
CHAIRMAN**