



Your Moray - Your Environment

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PLANNING "GREENER STRATEGIC GROUP" ON THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER

SUBJECT: PLASTIC RECYCLING IN MORAY SCHOOLS

BY: HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an assessment of the feasibility of rolling out a programme of plastic recycling at Moray schools.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Strategic Group agree**

Plans for the collection of plastics from schools should be put on hold until the outcome of the ongoing investigations into the future of waste collection and treatment in Moray is known.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council has facilities for the deposit of type 1 PET and type 2 HDPE plastics. These facilities are located at the Council's manned recycling centres at Gollachy in Buckie, Balloch Road in Keith, Chanonry in Elgin and Waterford in Forres. At present plastics are not collected direct from premises.
- 3.2 Plastic bottle collections could be introduced at schools, however the Council at present do not have the resources and currently there is no budget provision to support this service and therefore it would likely have to be put out to tender. The provision of such a service should be viewed on a holistic approach to future waste management.
- 3.3 The Council is currently investigating a number of ways to comply with Scottish Government targets for recycling and composting at minimum cost and maximum environmental benefit. A report was submitted to Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee on 26 August 2008 seeking approval to investigate and consult on various initiatives. These investigations are almost concluded and a report will be submitted to the Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee in early 2009. If the content of the report is agreed the Council will be in position to advise on an efficient solution to plastic recycling in schools.

- 3.3 Until investigations are concluded and the way forward approved the best option is for teachers and children to take their plastic bottles home and thereafter use one of the deposit facilities at the recycling centres.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)

An initial outlay of approximately £8,000 to £10,000 would be required for wheeled plastic bins. On a weekly collection costs are estimated at £650 per week. Furthermore, it may not be possible to utilise the existing workforce in terms of the Working Time Directive and Driver's Hours, in which case an external body may have to be contracted in.

(b) Consultations

The Waste Management Officer is in agreement with the contents of this report.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 **The collection of plastic direct from schools or other premises should wait until the future of waste collection and treatment in Moray has been investigated, consulted upon and approved by Committee.**

Author of Report: Emma Gordon, Planning Officer