

Agenda Item No. 4(e)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

19 January 2016

MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

Report of the Strategic Director - Economy, Transport and Environment

COURTAULD COMMITMENT 2025

- (1) **Purpose of Report** To seek approval to become an engagement partner and signatory of the Courtauld Commitment 2025.
- (2) **Information and Analysis** The Courtauld Commitment (CC) is a voluntary agreement which was established in 2005 which aimed to improve resource efficiency and reduce waste (including packaging and food waste) within the UK grocery sector. Fifty three leading retailers, brand owners, manufacturers and suppliers have signed up to support the delivery of the CC targets.

The agreement is funded by the UK Government and supports its policy goal of a 'zero waste economy' and climate change objectives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The CC is delivered by the Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP).

The first phase of the CC focused on reducing food and primary packaging ending up in household waste. The second phase included the addition of secondary and tertiary packaging. The third phase, which is currently drawing to an end, focused specifically on reducing waste in the food and drink sector. The results of this phase will be reported once complete but it aimed to achieve the following:

- Reduce food waste:
 - In the home.
 - In the supply chain.
 - Via packaging designed to improve food waste prevention.
- Reduce retail and manufacturing waste by:
 - Preventing and reducing grocery ingredient and product waste.
- Improve packaging design to:
 - Help consumers reduce waste.

- Make it easier to recycle.
- Increase recycled content.
- Ensure there is no increase in total carbon impact of packaging.

Courtauld 2025

The next generation of the agreement 'Courtauld 2025' is under development by WRAP and will be launched in 2016. Courtauld 2025 is aiming to cut waste and greenhouse gas emissions associated with food and drink by at least one-fifth per person over ten years, with cumulative savings of around £20 billion nationally. A wider range of partners, including local authorities, are being invited to sign up and support Courtauld 2025 to help deliver greater impact across the food system from farm to fork to make food and drink production and consumption more sustainable.

WRAP has acknowledged that over recent years, local authorities (including the County Council and Derbyshire district/borough councils) and the waste management sector have helped to deliver significant reductions in household food waste through delivering the consumer behaviour change campaign, 'Love Food Hate Waste' (LFHW). This campaign has helped residents to understand the issues and value their food through activities, such as:

- Running local LFHW campaigns;
- Cookery skills development;
- Better on-pack labelling;
- Education on storage and product life; and
- Information on portion sizes and healthy and sustainable diets.

Nationally and within Derbyshire, food waste remains a larger proportion of the residual waste stream. As a Courtauld 2025 engagement partner, the County Council would continue the successful work to promote the LFHW campaign in Derbyshire to help residents reduce avoidable food waste. This work will continue to support the vision and objectives, as set out in the Derby and Derbyshire Waste Management Strategy, to reduce waste.

As a signatory, the County Council would continue to benefit from 1:1 support from WRAP on the LFHW campaign, access research and materials before non-signatories, and have unique access to collaborative partnerships with other signatories. In return, the County Council will agree to:

- Work together with other partners to help deliver greater changes.
- Help to communicate to residents the actions which can make the biggest difference to reduce and recycle more food waste.
- Continue to measure and report food waste data through the routine quarterly waste data reporting in WasteDataFlow.
- Report annually on the scale of actions taken in promoting the LFHW campaign.

The County Council already actively communicates with residents on the LFHW campaign giving advice and tips to help residents waste less food. The on-going campaign includes engaging with residents through cooking demonstrations, roadshow events, competitions and information on the website. Reporting waste data into WasteDataFlow (the national waste data reporting system for local authorities) is completed as a matter of routine every quarter.

In addition, the County Council, as a signatory, would agree to undertake to work together with new partners to help deliver greater changes; this may involve promoting initiatives or sharing information. Reporting annually on actions taken to promote the LFHW campaign in Derbyshire would be required. A record of waste awareness raising activities and campaigns is already recorded monthly. This could be easily collated into an annual report. These additional tasks can be met from within the existing Waste Management Service resources.

Since 2005, the Courtauld Commitment has achieved a great deal in addressing and tackling the problem of packaging and food waste. Supporting this valuable work will help to reduce waste and to increase recycling and composting, which is a critical part of delivering sustainable waste management in Derbyshire.

(3) Financial Considerations The County Council is responsible for dealing with the disposal of residual waste and the associated high costs of landfill or waste treatment. Preventing and reducing food waste would help to reduce residual waste.

Supporting the Courtauld 2025 would be met from within the existing resources of the Waste Management Service.

(4) Environmental Considerations The County Council, through the Derbyshire and Derby City Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, along with the partner authorities, is committed to promoting and developing sustainable waste management for Derbyshire. Reducing waste that is thrown away and increasing recycling and composting is a key part of this.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, health, property and transport considerations.

(5) Key Decision No.

- (6) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.
- (7) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Philippa Roine, extension 39796.
- (8) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION** That the Cabinet Member approves signing up as an engagement partner to the Courtauld Commitment 2025.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment