

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 9 JUNE 2016

SIGNING UP TO THE COURTAULD COMMITMENT 2025

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES

(Contact: Claire Locke, Tel: (01993) 861344)

(The Committee decision on this matter will be a recommendation to Cabinet)

1. PURPOSE

To report on Courtauld 2025 and seek agreement to sign up to the agreement, demonstrating the Councils commitment to reducing waste and maximising recycling and composting.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet be recommended to agree to sign up to the Courtauld Commitment 2025.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. The Courtauld Commitment 2025 is a voluntary agreement that brings together a broad range of organisations involved in the food system to make food and drink production and consumption more sustainable. (Further information can be found at <http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/courtauld-commitment-2025>).
- 3.2. WRAP are inviting Local Authorities to sign up to the agreement to demonstrate their commitment to influencing consumer, community and business actions in reducing waste and maximising recycling and composting. Whilst the Commitment is primarily targeted at food and drink manufacturers a number of local authorities and County wide Waste Partnerships have already signed up.
- 3.3. The Courtauld Commitment was launched in March and its ambition is to cut the resource needed to provide our food and drink by one fifth in ten years. There is a target of 20% reduction in food and drink waste and 20% reduction in Green House Gases (predominantly from Agriculture). One of the key aims is to reduce waste.
- 3.4. The Council already has initiatives in place to promote recycling, reuse and composting. Initiatives that the Council has run such as the “No Food Waste” stickers on bins and the doorstep campaign to promote recycling and composting relate directly to the objectives of the Courtauld Commitment.
- 3.5. Signing up to the Commitment does not require any specific action from WODC or require any additional resources but instead demonstrates the Council commitment to this initiative and to recycling, reuse and composting generally.
- 3.6. At the Oxfordshire Environment Partnership in March, the County Council encouraged Districts to sign up to the agreement. Most have now done so and others are currently seeking agreement from their Members.

4. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

There is no requirement to sign up to the Courtauld Commitment 2025 so the Council could choose not to.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific financial implications associated with this decision.

6. RISKS

There are no identified risks associated with this report.

7. REASONS

Protect and enhance the environment of West Oxfordshire and maintain the district as a clean, beautiful place with low levels of crime and nuisance; and be recognised as a leading council that provides efficient, value for money services.

Claire Locke
Head of Environment and Commercial Services

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Background Papers
None