

ITEM 7b



COUNCIL CABINET 8 November 2005

Report of the Directors of Corporate Services, Commercial Services and Development and Cultural Services

Response to the Recommendations of the Culture and Prosperity Commission on the Best Value Review of Markets Update

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To consider the following comments in response to the recommendations of the Culture and Prosperity Commission on the Best Value Review of Markets Update.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 At its meeting on 26 September 2005 the Culture and Prosperity Commission received an update report on progress against the recommendations in the 2001 Best Value Review of Markets.
- 2.2 The Commission made the following recommendations:
1. To recommend that Council Cabinet give consideration to the following issues arising from the Best Value Review of the Markets Service.
 - a. That ways are found in which to either reduce or recycle other waste materials produced by the markets, including plastics, glass and polystyrene.
 - b. That all year round provision is made to collect compostable waste, which would allow the markets to compost all its vegetable, flower and straw waste.
 - c. That external signage to Derby's markets is improved and that this is included in the city centre signage strategy.
 - d. That stall holders are discouraged from allowing goods to encroach into the aisles as this has a detrimental effect on the access to the market by disabled users.

That a rolling programme is developed to ensure minor maintenance to Markets buildings is carried out more frequently. In the longer term it is recommended that consideration should be given to resurfacing work at the Cattle Market and the Wholesale Market and to re-wiring the Wholesale Market.

- 1.2 The following responses to these recommendations were provided by the Directors given at the head of this report.

Corporate Services' Response

- 1a The extension of recycling to cover cardboard and other market waste was built into the new cleaning contract. It has now been extended to compostable materials and light fittings.
- 1d Stallholders are at present discouraged from allowing their goods from encroaching into the aisles. This is carried out by Markets staff who issue written instructions to remove their goods by a specified time. If this request is not complied with, the goods are removed by Markets staff and a charge made for their return. Traders are very aware that their livelihood depends on customers being able to access the aisles. Wheelchair users in the market who attend on a regular basis should agree that access is always maintained on the most part.
- 1e At present, minor repairs to buildings are carried out from the maintenance budget. Regular meetings between Markets and Maintenance staff are held to ensure that they are given priorities within the overall budget, but this is against the Council's general Maintenance Strategy.

Major items such as roadway repairs and rewiring have been identified to the Asset Management Group and have to be prioritised within that Strategy.

Development and Cultural Services' Response

- 1c As part of the City Centre pedestrian signing works, some of the sign assemblies have been amended such that pedestrians are directed to the Eagle Centre via Morledge and East Street in order for their route to pass the Eagle Centre market. Further, a new sign has now been delivered, and will be erected shortly, which will direct pedestrians to the Guildhall Market via Lock-Up Yard.

It is important to note that the sole purpose of highway direction signing is to indicate the most appropriate route to key destinations. The Commission may wish to consider the investigation of further advertising/marketing signing specifically targeted at Markets. This type of signing can be delivered on a much more bespoke basis.

Commercial Services' Response to 1a and 1b

Commercial Services provide Cleansing and Waste Collection Services under contract to the Markets Section of Corporate Services. Five markets are covered by the contract namely; Market Hall, Eagle Centre, Wholesale Market, Cattle Market and the Allenton Market.

Eagle Centre and Market Hall

At the two main retail markets, Eagle Centre and Market Hall, waste is collected in

two compactors skips. Refuse is brought by traders and placed in two compactors skips at each site. At the Eagle Centre, this is via a chute. Arrangements have been previously agreed with the traders to separate cardboard and paper from other waste and to place it in one skip for recycling. The remaining waste is placed into the other compactor and is disposed of as Trade Waste. Both skips at each site are emptied once per week.

It would be possible to consider increasing recycling at each site following an analysis of the content of the remaining refuse. This would enable the amounts of Glass, Plastics, Metals, Wood, Food Waste and Fruit, Vegetable and Plant content in the waste stream to be quantified. Sufficient 1100 litre bins would be required at each site to accommodate the recyclables in two categories, Dry Recyclables, (glass, cans and plastic) and Compostables. The collection of recyclables from the markets could be incorporated into collection schedules for the domestic rethink rubbish programme. From 6 March 2006, food waste will be added to compostable waste collections. Contaminated cardboard, which is unsuitable for clean cardboard recycling, can also be accommodated within compostable waste.

Given the present layout at each site, it would not be possible to accommodate the recycling bins near to where refuse is normally disposed of by the traders. It should however be possible to locate at least four, 1100 litre recycling bins at each site in areas currently used for vehicle parking. The bins could be emptied daily.

Allenton Market

Currently all waste is disposed of into a compactor skip. An assessment of the composition of waste will be required to quantify the recyclable constituents. Recycling bins could be located within the site and emptied after each Market.

Wholesale Market

All cardboard is stored in a container skip and recycled. The remaining waste is disposed of in eight, 1100 litre bins emptied weekly. These bins could be relabelled to take Dry Recyclables (glass, plastics and cans), Compostables, (vegetable matter, food waste and contaminated cardboard), and general waste. A trial could be conducted to establish the relative quantities in each category. This would require close supervision to ensure the full co-operation of Traders.

Co-operation of Traders

The success of the scheme would be dependant upon the willingness of traders to cooperate in separating their waste and carrying it the extra distance to the recycling bins. The proposed location of the recycling bins would need to be discussed and agreed with Market Trader Representatives.

Financial

Refuse collection costs at each site would also increase as a result of the separate collection arrangements for recyclables. This has also been the pattern for the Rethink Rubbish programme. The size of the increase will depend upon the amounts recycled, and will be offset by the value of the items recycled. This can be established by conducting trials at each site. Costs would increase still further if

cleansing attendants, rather than Traders, were required to collect and separate waste from the current disposal point and carry to the recycling bins.

Waste Reduction

Again, the cooperation of traders is essential to achieve a reduction in the volume of waste generated by the markets by minimising packaging wherever possible.

Arrangements are being made to recycle old lamps. It is not possible to recycle polystyrene as part of current recycling schemes currently operated by the Council, but this will be investigated.

For more information contact:	Katherine Taylor 01332 255599 e-mail katherine.taylor@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	Culture and Prosperity Commission Report to Cabinet 8 November 2005
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None provided by the Directors.

Legal

2. None provided by the Directors.

Personnel

3. None provided by the Directors.

Equalities impact

4. Improved Markets service is of benefit to all Derby people.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. This report links to the following of the Councils corporate objectives and priorities for change:

Corporate Objectives:	A prosperous, vibrant and successful economy
Priorities for Change:	more sustainable Derby through increased recycling
	Improving customer service, in the city centre and locally