

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
REPORT**

To: COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE	Subject: LOCAL AUTHORITY WASTE AUDIT & WASTE PREVENTION PROGRAMME
From: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	
Date 11 TH APRIL 2005 Ref: KW/RC/SK	

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report informs Committee of the Council's successful grant application to the Scottish Executive for funding of £62,500 towards an internal waste audit and waste prevention action plan. The report identifies each of the key areas to this development.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Minister for Environment and Rural Development announced, in November 2004, a fund to support local authority internal waste audits and waste prevention action plans. In response to this announcement, North Lanarkshire Council, together with a number of other local authorities proposes to deliver a waste audit across each participating council's services. This audit is with a view to producing a waste prevention plan with achievable waste prevention targets over a 12-month period.
- 2.2 Although waste audits and waste prevention is not new, the adoption of a structured approach across a number of councils is new. In order to ensure consistency it is proposed that Remade Scotland will assist participating councils in the delivery of the programme.

3. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

- 3.1 The development comprises three stages and will be completed in 2005/06:
- Recruitment & Waste Audit Programme (1-4 months)
 - Development & Implementation of Waste Prevention Plan (After 6 months)
 - Programme Evaluation And Identifying Achievements (Final report within 12 months)
- 3.2 **Waste Audit Programme** – Due to the unique nature of the project, there is a restricted marketplace for consultants in this field. Remade Scotland has both the specialist knowledge and multi faceted technical skills required to successfully appraise the approached implementation of this project.

- 3.3 Remade Scotland will also provide support to all of the relevant Scottish local authorities, including the establishment of a web-based discussion forum. In terms of a waste audit *framework*, Remade Scotland will establish a small core team of waste audit expertise to provide a common approach and ensure consistency across each local authority. The waste audit itself will focus on the generation of the council's own waste streams rather than including the waste arisings which the council is responsible for managing, (i.e. domestic waste, trade waste, special uplifts etc will not be included). North Lanarkshire Council's audit should reflect the Council's own priorities and should reflect corporate and departmental service plans and Best Value initiatives where appropriate.
- 3.4 **Development & Implementation of Waste Prevention Plan** – The plan will summarise the waste audit findings and outline a programme of activities that will support the prevention of the council's waste. This will focus initially on "quick wins" and thereafter identify medium and long-term actions. The achievement and dissemination of early successes will be important to maintaining and increasing employee participation.
- 3.5 **Programme Evaluation And Identifying Achievements** – It is widely recognised that waste prevention is difficult to accurately quantify. Consequently, a range of measures will be employed to provide an indication of the effectiveness of waste prevention activities.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Scottish Executive has awarded £62,500 to each of the participating local authorities. Typically this will cover:

	£'000s
Remade Scotland	25.5
Indirect costs, travel etc	5.0
Direct investment in initiatives	22.0
Promotion and communication	5.0
Remade Scotland	5.0
Total	£62.5

- 4.2 It is recognised by the Scottish Executive that each local authority may spend this "generic" grant differently, reflecting the different mix of local services and expertise. However, within North Lanarkshire Council, costs will be restricted to the level of grant awarded and will broadly follow the generic outline above. This funding should be treated as corporate funding since it is intended for the Council as a whole.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That Committee notes the content of this report.
- 5.2 That a further report is submitted to Committee at the end of the one-year period advising of the outcome, following project evaluation.
- 5.3 That the report be referred to the Planning and Environment Committee for information.

