

Cabinet resolved:

- (1) that the recommendations of the Economy Skills Transport and Environment Scrutiny Board in relation to food waste recycling be received;
- (2) that the Director - Homes and Communities be requested to consider:

Executive Response:

a. an options appraisal relating to the future for food waste recycling in Sandwell;	It is recommended that until further guidance is received from the Government in relation to the Our Waste – Our Strategy A Policy for England and Wales is received, and further consultation is undertaken with WRAP, Local Partnerships and other members of the West Midlands Combined Authority. An options appraisal at this point in time would not provide members with the full and concise view of options available.
b. the requirements of the EU amending Directive 2008/98/EC (Circular Economy) in relation to food waste;	As above
c. options on how to encourage residents to reduce food waste;	We will continue to promote food waste recycling via the Sandwell MBC website, food waste bins are replaced or given free of charge to our customers, our customers receive periodic texts and social media messages during festive periods (Christmas, Pancake Day, Halloween, etc), a significant number of our waste collections vehicles advertise the food waste service, promotional articles will continue to be placed in the Sandwell Herald, Waste Awareness Officers will continue to visit residents and offer advice and guidance on food waste (and all other) recycling.
d. the focus for future food waste campaigns in Sandwell to 'reduce first and recycle last';	By using the methods above to encourage our customers to recycle food waste this will highlight to them the amount of food waste they are discarding. Evidence has shown that this encourages our customers reduce their food waste. Further options on Reduce First – Recycle Last campaigns will be considered as/when further guidance is received from central Government in relation to the Our Waste – Our Strategy A Policy for England and Wales.