

## Council Meeting – 28 January 2015

### Joint Authority Questions:-

#### 1. Councillor Pickstone

Could the Authority's spokesperson on the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee outline what consideration could be given to restoring a bus service on Heywood Old Road (Middleton Road to Ellis Lane)? Members will be aware that this area of the Borough is without any scheduled public transport access, despite having very unfavourable geography for walking, and a population which includes many elderly residents.

(To be answered by Councillor Noel Bayley – Committee for Transport for Greater Manchester Transport representative)

**A. Due to ongoing budgetary pressures, Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) must reduce its expenditure on supported bus services by £7.1 million up to the end of 2015/16, which equates to approximately 20% of the previous level of expenditure. As a result, significant reductions are being made to our existing network of supported bus services and there is no funding available to provide replacement services when they are withdrawn without affecting existing other bus service provision.**

**As a result of this, there are no plans to reinstate a bus service to Heywood Old Road between Middleton Road and Ellis Lane to replace the commercial service 167 Norden to Manchester which was withdrawn in 2012.**

**Heywood local link covers the surrounding areas and operates Monday to Friday 0530 – 2300 hours and Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays between 0900 and 1700 hours which provides a door to door service.**

## **2. Councillor Pickstone**

Could the Authority's spokesperson on Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority please inform members what the estimated amount of plastic (all types of plastic) which is in the residual waste stream in the GMWDA area. What is this compared to the amount of plastic that is in the recyclables stream (e.g. Bury's Blue Bin). How have these figures changed in recent years?

(To be answered by Councillor Cummings – Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority representative)

**A. GMWDA undertook a Greater Manchester wide waste composition analysis in 2011. This involved analysis of statistically valid samples of the four kerbside collected waste streams ie residual, commingled dry recyclables, pulpables and mixed food and garden waste to determine the % by weight composition of major material categories. This showed that c. 74% of the materials collected across those 4 streams was potentially recyclable or compostable.**

**In relation to plastics the 2011 waste composition analysis separated out plastic bottles, other dense plastics and plastic films. At a Greater Manchester level, this showed that these materials made up c. 15.4% of the residual waste stream. In 2011, kerbside collected residual waste was c. 514,000 tonnes, thereby giving a total of c. 79,000 tonnes of plastics in the residual waste stream. The analysis for Bury showed that plastics made up c. 12.5% of the residual waste stream at that time, equating to c. 6,100 tonnes of plastics in the Bury residual waste stream.**

**The analysis also looked the level of plastics in the commingled dry recyclables stream. In 2011, c. 6,855 tonnes of Commingled materials were collected in Bury of which c. 1,500 tonnes were estimated to be plastics based on the composition analysis, the majority being plastic bottles.**

**Using analysis undertaken on the commingled materials stream at our Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) where the recyclable materials are separated shows an estimated figure of around 1,600 tonnes of plastics being collected for recycling in Bury in 2012 and around 1,250 tonnes in 2013. The overall tonnage of**

**commingled recyclables collected in both years was around 7,800 tonnes. The variations in the quantity of plastics captured in each year is linked to changes in packaging with a move towards lighter weight plastic products and pouches as well as the economic downturn in this period affecting consumer habits. Therefore despite increased capture of recyclables by the Council, the level of plastic captured does not show a corresponding increase.**

**Plastic bottles are specifically targeted in the Greater Manchester kerbside collections as there are sustainable markets for these materials. Other dense plastics such as yoghurt pots, tubs and trays do not have sustainable end markets and demand for these materials from reprocessors is low/non existent. Therefore these materials remain in the residual waste stream and are converted to refuse derived fuel and used for energy and steam generation for industrial use.**