

Somerset Waste Board meeting
29 September 2017
Report for information

Risk Update

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Forward Plan Reference:	SWB17/06/04
Summary:	Update on changes to SWP risk profile.
Recommendations:	That the Somerset Waste Board notes and comments on changes in the SWP risk profile as described.
Reasons for recommendations:	Good practice in response to SWAP internal Audit recommendations.
Links to Priorities and Impact on Annual Business Plan:	Risk Register is included within the Business Plan.
Financial, Legal and HR Implications:	N/A
Equalities Implications:	N/A
Risk Assessment:	(Inherent to purpose of report)

1. Background

- 1.1. This is a regular update to notify SWB members of changes to or developments within the annual SWP Risk Register, as included with the Annual Business Plan.
- 1.2. The Risk Update will be a standing item on SWB agendas and is intended to provide an opportunity to alert Board members to newly identified or escalating risks that may have a significant impact on service delivery.
- 1.3. Incorporation of this item on SWB Agendas is a recommendation of SWAP internal Audit review.

2. New Risks / Opportunities Identified and Mitigation Measures

- 2.1.** Landfill Fires – there have been two service affecting fires at landfill sites in Somerset in recent months. It is very difficult to pinpoint exact causes but the three primary causes are thought to be hot ash; lithium ion batteries (found in mobile phones, laptops and e-cigarettes), and glass in refuse which acts as a magnifying glass on hot days. Somerset Waste Partnership are working closely with Viridor and the Fire Service communication teams to promote messages about safe waste disposal.
- 2.2.** Driver Shortage –
 - Brexit – EU nationals make up around one tenth of the UK’s commercial drivers and there is industry feedback suggesting many are considering relocating to countries where they have more certainty of future rights. In Somerset Kier’s contract manager has suggested this is already a contributing factor to difficulty finding drivers. This skill shortage is likely to grow and government acknowledgement of this as a priority skill, with incentivisation of overseas drivers, may be the only effective solution. SWP are working with Kier to develop a credible short term plan based on robust permanent staff numbers and more effective procedures for hiring agency staff. In the longer term SWP may consider working more closely with tertiary education centres in Somerset to encourage local young people to pursue commercial driving as a career.
 - Hinkley – While still likely to impact, the loss of drivers to the Hinkley C development is not currently thought to be significantly impacting on services as working patterns and packages are not sufficiently attractive. This may change and this remains a risk going forward.
- 2.3.** Risks relating to the Recycle More project are not included in this report as they are covered in separate updates.

3. Consultations undertaken

- 3.1.** N/A

4. Implications

- 4.1.** Implications, benefits and opportunities of risk management are well understood and are embedded in SWP operational and strategic management approach.

5. Background papers

- 5.1.** SWP Annual Risk Register