

<p>Title of Report:</p> <p>Zero Waste Europe Pilot Accreditation Programme</p>	<p>Officer Presenting:</p> <p>Head of Environment</p> <p>Author:</p> <p>Head of Environment</p>
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1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations

1.1 To seek Members approval to participate in a pilot accreditation programme being taken forward by Zero Waste Europe in consideration of Councils ambition to achieve zero waste status.

2 Background

2.1 Members will recall previous items setting out the adoption of the Circular Economy / Zero Waste Strategy and the actions contained therein to transition the City and District to a circular economy and a zero waste community.

2.2 in consideration of the above Council subsequently applied to and has been accepted as a member of the Zero Waste Europe community and has taken forward a range of initiatives and actions as set out in the strategy to ensure that we meet the strategy objectives.

3 Key Issues

3.1 Zero Waste Europe have recently contacted Council with a proposal in respect of an accreditation scheme that they are developing in terms of zero waste.

3.2 The certification process is being developed as an aid to managing all the phases of implementing zero waste strategies and not just a formalisation of the process.

3.3 Zero Waste Europe see this as a tool that municipalities can use as a framework to design and monitor the implementation of their respective zero waste plans and as a tool to protect and promote zero waste champions.

3.4 The benefits to participation are;

- Within with the Zero Waste Europe network of nearly 400 zero waste cities currently, we're offering the possibility of being a Pilot ZW Certified City to a handful of European municipalities that have a solid local affiliate and whose location makes strategic sense for bringing adjacent municipalities on board.

Given the leadership shown by the Council so far, we would very much like to extend this invitation to Derry & Strabane.

- Following the pilot phase, there will be the chance to become one of the first fully Zero Waste Certified Cities in Europe. As we build the certification & the supporting work of our Mission Zero Academy, we will begin to charge fees to become certified. Being one of the first will result in these fees being waived for the first 3 years, another key advantage.
- As already mentioned the framework provided by the certification can be used by the Council to structure the design, roll-out and implementation of the strategy within Derry & Strabane, ensuring the city region has the foundations in place for success and gets off to a great start.
- Being a Pilot ZW Certified City will mean that Council staff and those from the local community will be given privileged and subsidized access to training resources and opportunities provided by our newly developed Mission Zero Academy.
- The ability to communicate with residents and other cities and regions the Derry & Strabane is one of Europe's first Zero Waste Certified Cities, with the benefits this brings for image and awareness.

3.5 Full details of the scheme are included as appendix 1.

4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement, Rural Needs and other Implications

- 4.1 There is no fee for agreeing to participate in the pilot at this time. The expectation however is that once the pilot concludes and the scheme is implemented those seeking accreditation will be expected to pay a fee.
- 4.2 There are no other financial, equality, legal, HR, improvement, rural need or other implications associated with this item.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 Members are asked to approve to participate in the pilot accreditation programme being taken forward by Zero Waste Europe.

Background Papers

Appendix 1 – ZW Cities