

Waste and Recycling Committee

Date: 17 July 2024

Subject: Contracts Update

Report of: Justin Lomax, Head of Contract Services & Paul Morgan, Head of Commercial Services, Waste and Resources Team

Purpose Of Report

To update the Committee on performance of the Waste and Resource Management Services and Household Waste Recycling Centre Management Services Contracts that commenced on 1 June 2019.

Recommendations:

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Note and comment on all matters set out in the report.

Contact Officers

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Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

There are no equalities impacts arising from the matters set out in this report. A fundamental principle of the WRMS and HWRCMS contracts is the sustainable management of waste in order to reduce carbon emissions from landfill disposal. The carbon impacts of the contracts are monitored and provided annually by the contractor.

Risk Management

Performance of the contracts and associated risks are captured in the GMCA corporate risk register.

Legal Considerations

Activities set out in this report are in accordance with the terms of the WRMS and HWRCMS contracts.

Financial Consequences – Revenue

Activities set out in this report are in accordance with the Waste revenue budget.

Financial Consequences – Capital

Activities set out in this report are in accordance with the Waste capital budget.

Number of attachments to the report: None

Comments/recommendations from Overview & Scrutiny Committee

N/A

Background Papers

19/1/2019 - Waste Procurement, Corporate Issues and Reform Committee

Tracking/ Process

Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution

Yes

Exemption from call in

Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency? N/A

GM Transport Committee

N/A

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

N/A

1. Introduction

This report provides the Waste and Recycling Committee with an overview of performance of the Waste and Resources Management Services (WRMS) and the Household Waste Recycling Centre Management Services (HWRCMS) Contracts, with updates on key issues currently affecting the waste management services during this period.

2. Contract Performance

This report uses cumulative annual data, for the Contract year 5 (April 2023 to March 2024), for the two Contracts held by Suez. This is the latest verified data available at the time of writing of the report.

2.1. Cumulative Data

Data is also provided for comparison with the current year to date, with the same period of the previous year, 2022/23:

OVERALL Combined Performance (WCA + HWRC)	2023 / 2024	2022 / 2023
Cumulative data (Year end figures)		
Total arisings (t)	1,026,271	1,016,669
Combined Recycling Rate*	46.43%	45.57%
Diversion Rate	100%	99.48%
HWRC Combined Performance		
Recycling Rate (Household Waste)*	57.57%	51.99%
Diversion (Household Waste)	98.78%	97.93%
WCA Recycling Collections		
Rejected Kerbside Recycling Collections (t)	678.17	1,901.31
MRF Contamination Rate (Commingled)	13.31%	14.53%

*This Recycling Rate relates only to tonnage handled through the Suez contracts, from both WCA collections and delivered to HWRCs. It is not the same as the nationally reported Waste Data Flow recycling rate that will include other WCA waste and recycling streams that do not flow through the 2 Suez contracts.

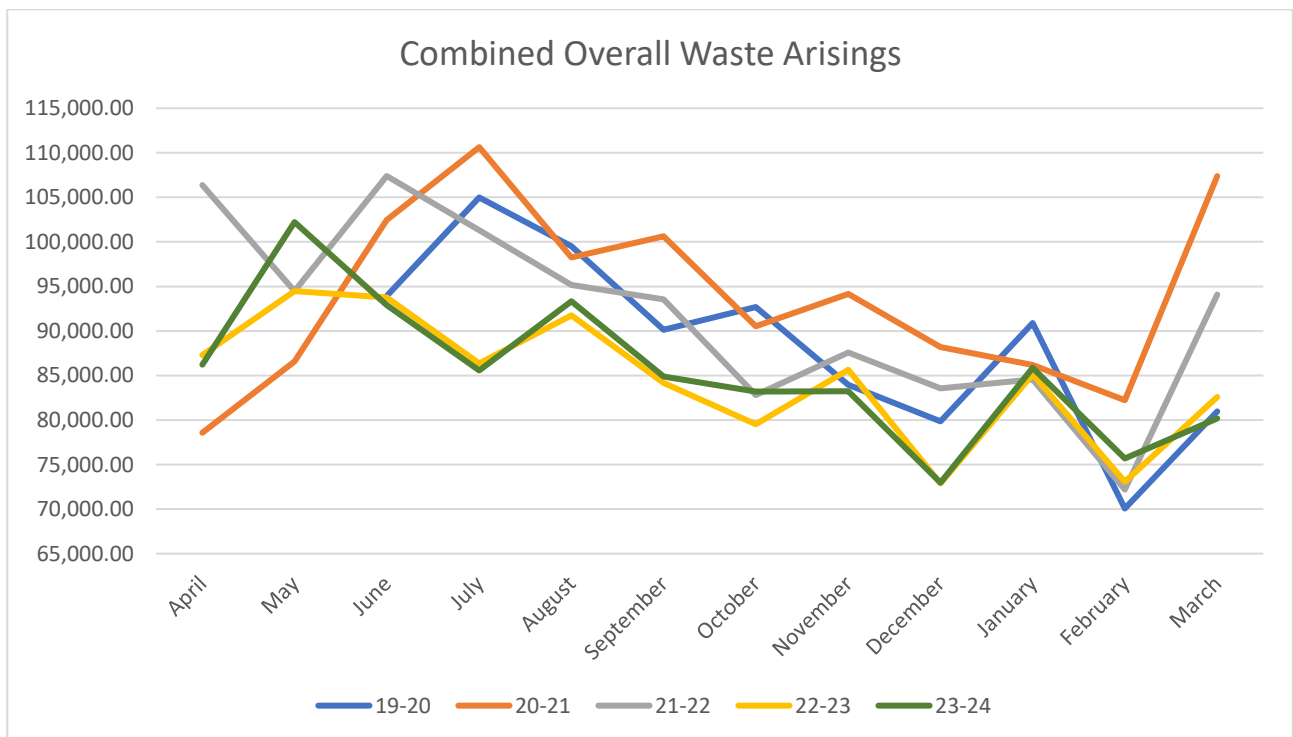
2.2. Total Waste Arisings

Total waste arisings for this period reached nearly 1.03 million (M) tonnes (t), which was almost 1% higher than the previous Contract year (2022/23).

The combined (overall) Contract Recycling rate was over 46%, which has also increased by just under 1% compared to last year. Across the HWRC network, the significant increase in the combined Recycling performance has been sustained, resulting in a rise to over 5% higher than the previous year, reaching 57.6% for Contract year 5.

The graph below gives a comparison of the waste arisings against the previous 4 years of the Contracts with the year-to-date trend (green) line for 23/24 (noting that the blue line for 19/20 begins in June 19, reflecting the start date of the Contracts and the orange line for 20/21 reflecting quarter 1 Covid lockdown impacts).

The annual trend for Contract Year 5 (green line) tracked a similar pattern to the previous year, with the variations in May and October likely to be weather related. The year-on-year result was an overall c.1% increase in arisings (circa 9.6kt).



2.3. Landfill Diversion

Over Contract year 5, the continuing good performance at both Energy Recovery Facilities (ERF), in Runcorn and Bolton, has meant almost all (over 99%) of residual (non-recycled) materials have been diverted away from landfill, with a year on year increase of c.1% on the same period of the previous year.

2.4. Contamination Levels

The contamination level of kerbside collected recyclate, from unacceptable materials extracted by the MRF process, was 13.3%. Additionally, 678t of materials had to be rejected at Contract reception points, due to excess levels of unacceptable materials in the delivered loads, which is over 64% lower than the previous year. Since the Contracts started, there has been a downward trend in non-target materials in the collections, which is very positive, though more still needs to be done to improve the accuracy of materials presented for recycling.

2.5. Overall Combined Rates

In summary, the overall performance for Contract year 5, across both Contracts combined (incorporating both WCA and HWRC tonnages), achieved a recycling rate of over 46%, with a landfill diversion rate of over 99%.

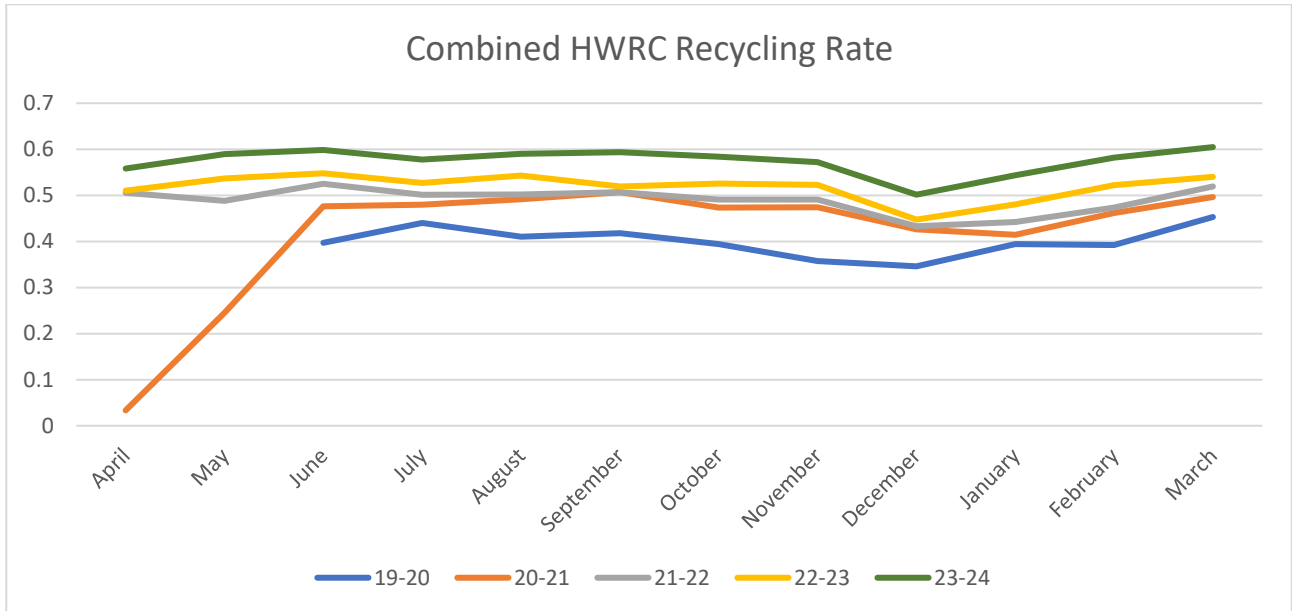
2.6. HWRC Recycling Rate

For HWRCs across both Contracts, 20 sites in total (WRMS has 9 sites, plus 11 in HWRCMS contract), the combined recycling rate for the year 23/24 was 57.6%.

Over Contract Year 5, measures to maintain and increase recycling on the 20 HWRCs have continued, with the prevention of trade and cross-boundary waste via the ongoing Access Policy controls (meet and greet; ANPR system; van permit scheme) having a positive impact on the levels of arisings and recycling rate.

The graph below gives a comparison of the Year 5 combined HWRC recycling rates against the previous 4 Contract years to date. The trend for 23/24 (green line) shows the recycling rate across the HWRCs increased by over 5%, when compared to the same period last year. This also demonstrates the continued year on year increase in the recycling rates across

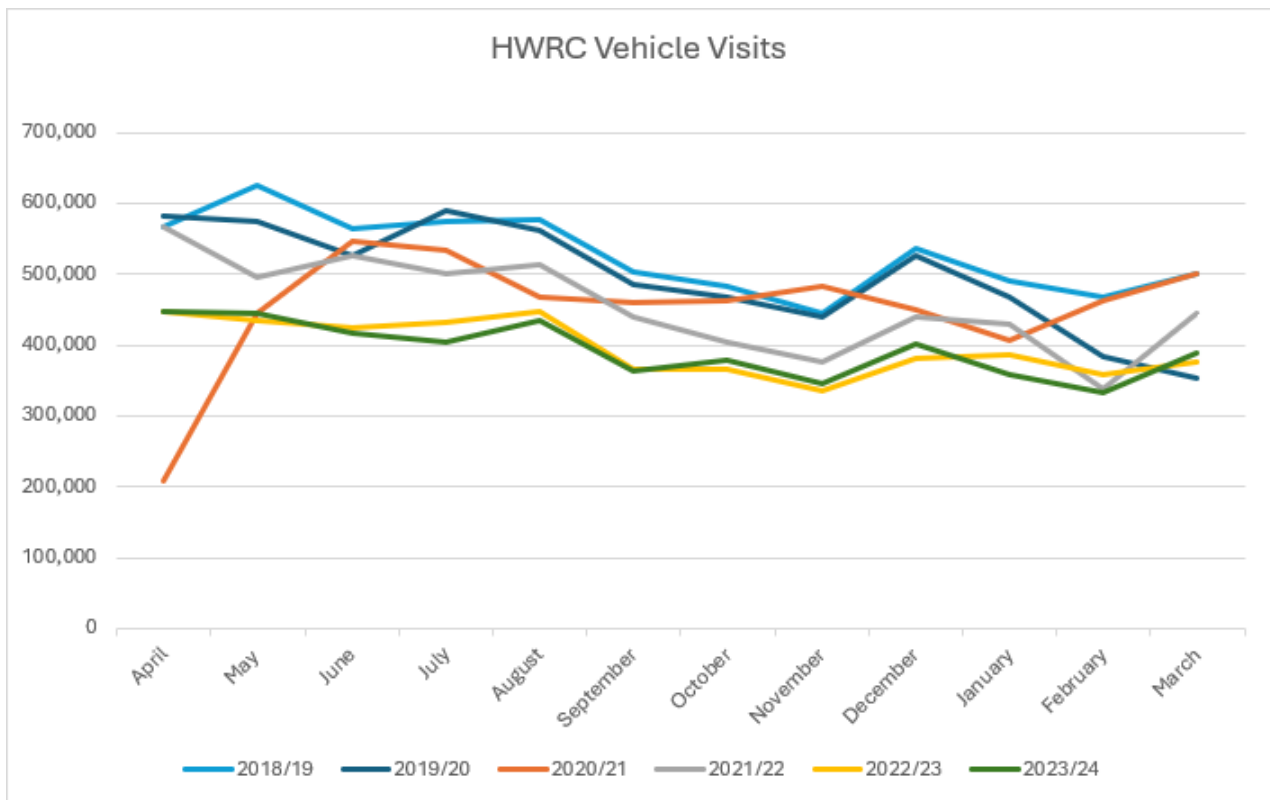
the Contracts, since they commenced in 2019. Therefore, we have had an ongoing improvement for the last 5 years, as well as on the previous Contract.



2.7. HWRC Visit Levels

The graph below shows monthly HWRC visit levels up to the end of Contract Year 5 (April 23 to March 24 - green line on graph), compared with the previous four Contract years.

There were over 4.7M visits in the last 12 month period. There has been a continued trend of reducing visitor numbers across the 20 HWRC sites. Numbers have fallen significantly, particularly due to the Access Policy measures preventing trade / commercial waste from illegally entering the system. Also, efforts have been made to reduce the amount of cross-boundary waste, entering Greater Manchester sites from neighbouring Authority areas. However, the reduction has slowed when compared to last year (22/23), the visitor level fell by only c.0.7%, and was following a similar trend line (yellow and green lines) suggesting a more stabilised level may now have been reached.



3. Health And Safety

Health and Safety statistics are provided in the Contractor Monthly Services Reports for each Contract and are scrutinised at the monthly Suez Contract Management meeting.

3.1. Reporting Categories

Health and Safety data is reported in key categories, separating incidents involving the Contractor staff and operations, from those involving members of the public (MoP), plus a Near Miss category. Near Miss, Incident and Notifiable Incident data is collected centrally and analysed to feed into local, regional and national lessons learned across the Contractor organisation and communicated to all staff.

3.2 RIDDORS

For the Contract year 5 (April 2023 to March 2024), end of year position, unfortunately there were 4 events reportable under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013.

- 1 Location: Adswold HWRC. An operative opening the front gate fell on a pothole causing grazes to his right hand, left forearm and injury to ribs. Pothole depth was circa 40mm.

A temporary repair has been carried out and a full resurface of the entrance area has been carried out;

- 2 Location: Longley Lane MRF. An operative sustained a cut and soft tissue damage to their finger during regular daily cleaning of MRF machinery. Suez has added an extra panel to block off this area to prevent reoccurrence;
- 3 Location: Longley Lane MTR. It was reported a driver had twisted his ankle while closing the doors of a container on his RORO wagon. The driver was taken to Bolton hospital where an x-ray has shown a broken lower leg bone. An independent occupational health provider was immediately tasked to make contact with the employee to provide support to aid rehabilitation and return to work; and
- 4 Location: Arkwright St TLS. A GMCA Contract Monitor was carrying out a site inspection when they slipped on ice generated from runoff of melting snow that had frozen overnight. The fall caused an injury to the elbow which was later found to be a hairline fracture. Suez have consequently adapted their induction procedures to cater more specifically for monitoring activities.

3.3. Year on Year Comparison

The table below shows a comparison of the number of RIDDOR incidents that have occurred by Contract year:

Year End	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
RIDDORs	5	3	3	4	4