

## **Greater Manchester Combined Authority**

### **Waste and Recycling Committee**

Date: 16 October 2024

Subject: Contracts Update – Part A

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

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### **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 as well as an update on latest position on the English Resources and Waste Strategy.

### **Recommendations:**

Members of the Committee are 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 Contract year 6 (2024/25) Quarter 1 (April to June 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, 2023/24:

<b>OVERALL Combined Performance (WCA + HWRC)</b>	<b>2024 / 2025</b>	<b>2023 / 2024</b>
<b>Cumulative data (Year end figures)</b>		
Total arisings (t)	280,230	281,339
Combined Recycling Rate*	49.7%	49.1%
Diversion Rate	100%	100%
<b>HWRC Combined Performance</b>		
Recycling Rate (Household Waste)*	64.5%	58.2%
Diversion (Household Waste)	98.8%	98.8%
<b>WCA Recycling Collections</b>		
Rejected Kerbside Recycling Collections (t)	55.1	196.1
MRF Contamination Rate (Commingled)	12.4%	13.5%

\*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 includes other WCA waste and recycling streams that do not flow through Suez contracts.

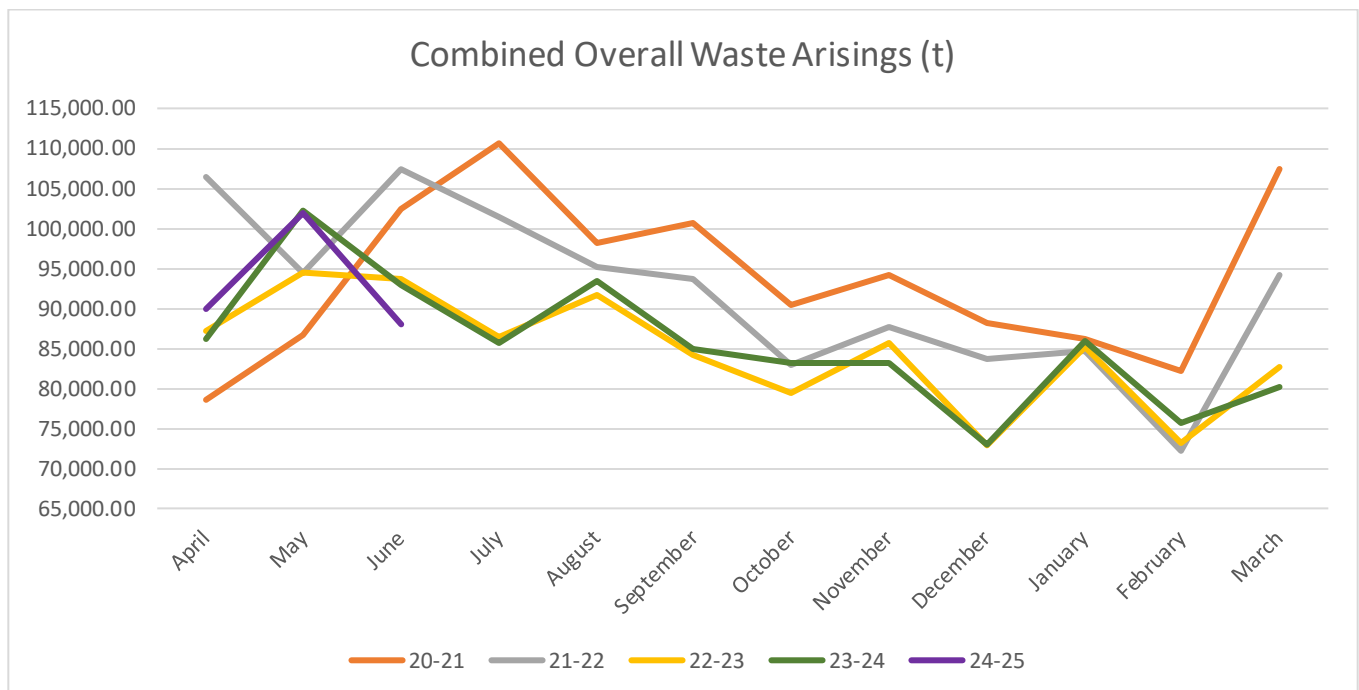
## 2.2. Total Waste Arisings

Total waste arisings for this period reached 280k tonnes(t), which was 0.4% lower than the Quarter 1 of the previous Contract year (2024/25).

The combined (overall) Contract Recycling rate was over 49.7%, which has also increased by c.0.7% compared to Quarter 1 last year. Across the HWRC network, the significant increase in the combined Recycling performance has been sustained, resulting in a rise to over 6% higher than this period of the previous year, reaching over 64%.

The graph below gives a comparison of the waste arisings against the previous 4 years of the Contracts with the year-to-date trend (purple line) for 24/25, (noting the orange line for 20/21 reflects quarter 1 Covid lockdown impacts).

The trend for Quarter 1 of Contract Year 6 (purple line) tracked a similar pattern to the same period of previous year, with a slightly lower tonnage level.



## 2.3. Landfill Diversion

In Quarter 1 of Contract year 6, the continuing good performance at both Energy Recovery Facilities (ERF), in Runcorn and Bolton, has meant diversion remains very high, with almost all (over 99%) of residual (non-recycled) materials diverted away from landfill.

## **2.4. Contamination Levels**

The contamination level of kerbside collected recyclate, from unacceptable materials extracted by the MRF process, was just over 12%, over 1% lower than Quarter 1 of last year. Additionally, only 55t of materials had to be rejected at Contract reception points, due to excess levels of unacceptable materials in the delivered loads, which is significantly lower than for this time in the previous year (over 70% reduction). Since the Contracts started, there has been an ongoing downward trend in non-target materials in the collections, which is very positive. Whilst more can still be done to improve the accuracy of materials presented for recycling, significant progress is being made.

## **2.5. Overall Combined Rates**

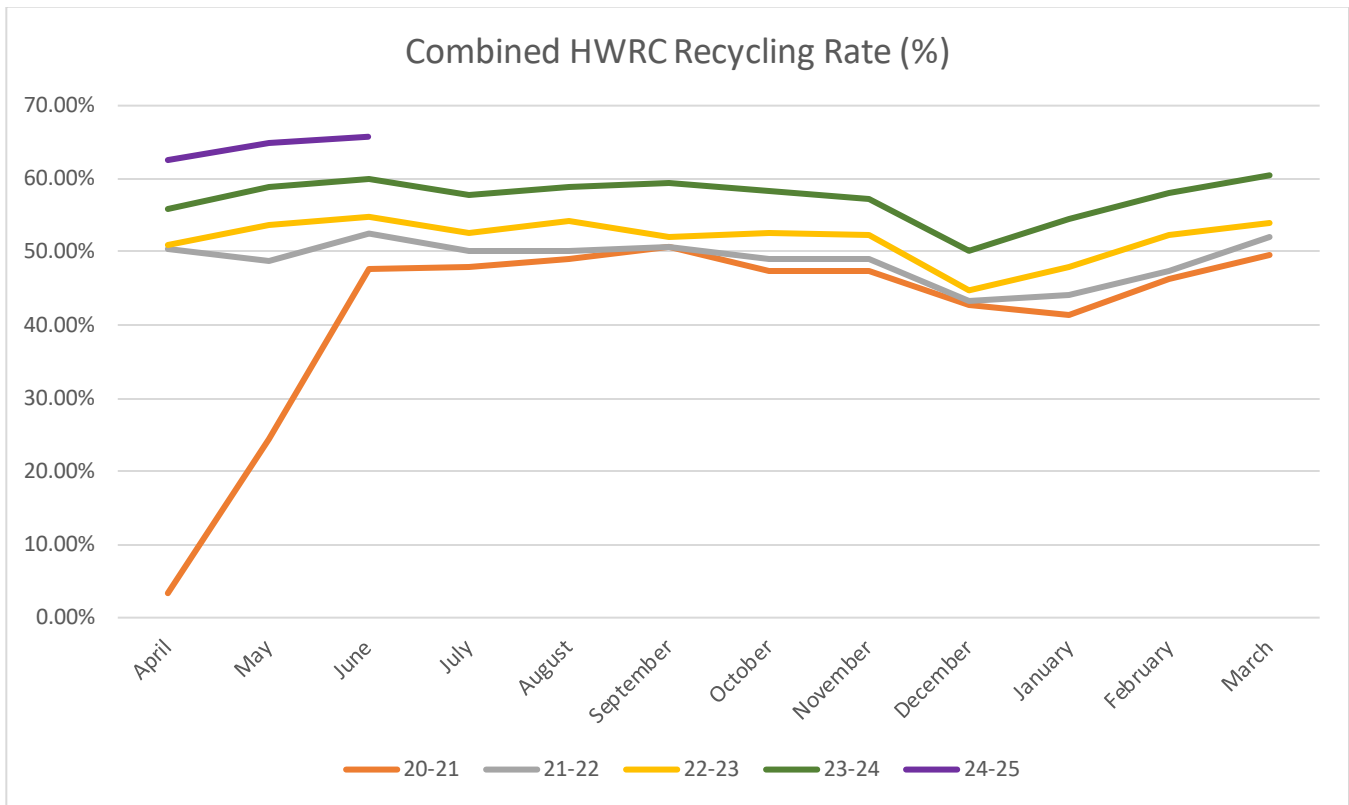
In summary, the overall performance for the first 3 months of Contract year 6, across both Contracts combined (incorporating both WCA and HWRC tonnages), achieved a recycling rate of over 49%, with a landfill diversion rate of over 99%.

## **2.6. HWRC Recycling Rate**

At the 20 HWRCs, across both Contracts (WRMS has 9 sites, plus 11 in HWRCMS contract), the combined recycling rate for Quarter 1 of 24/25 was above 64%.

Measures to maintain and increase recycling on the 20 HWRCs continue, combined 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 by lowering levels of arisings and improving segregation for recycling.

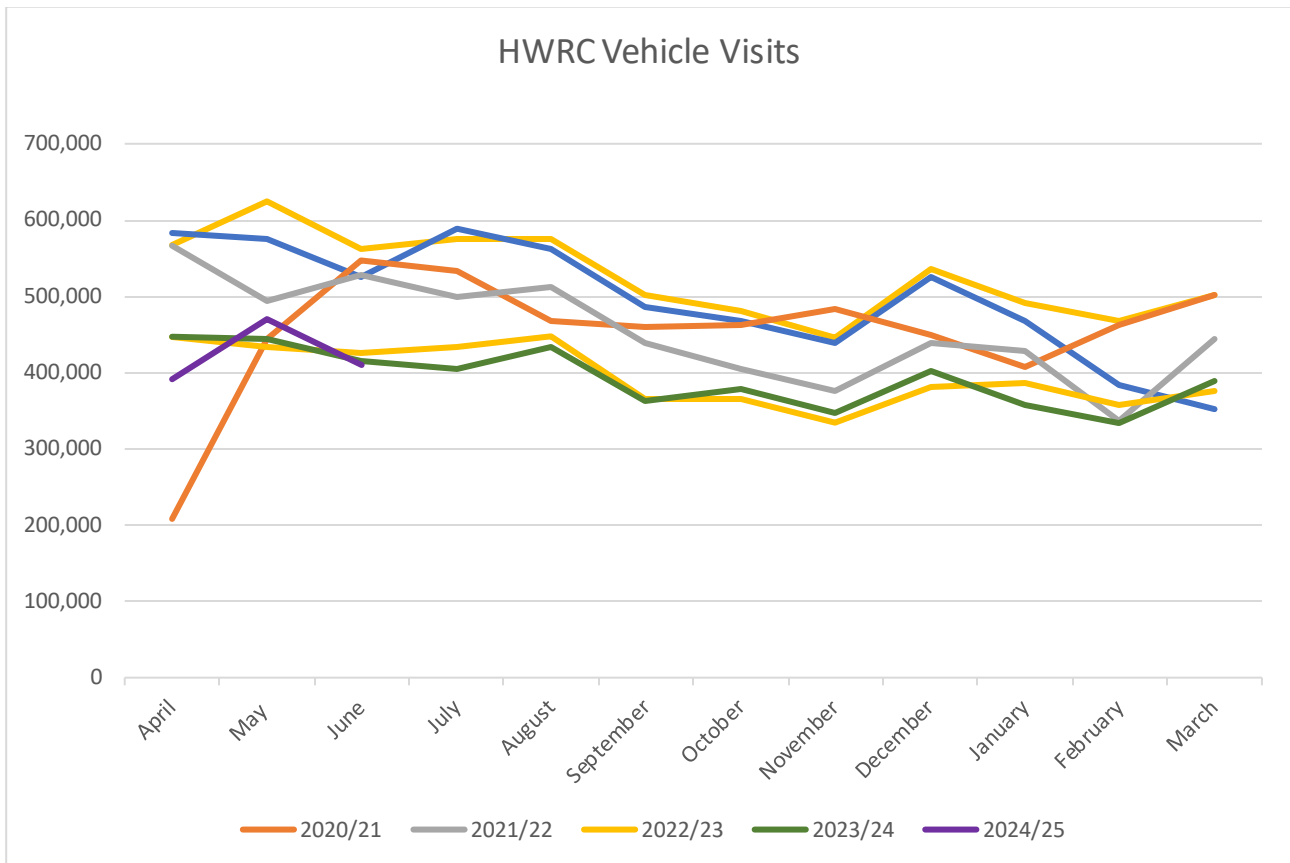
The graph below gives a comparison of the year-on-year combined HWRC recycling rates against the previous 4 Contract years to date. The trend for 24/25 (purple line) shows the recycling rate across the HWRCs increasing by over 6%, when compared to the same period last year. There has been a continued year-on-year increase in the recycling rates across the Contracts, since they commenced in 2019, meaning we have had an ongoing improvement each year, as well as against the previous Contract.



## 2.7. HWRC Visit Levels

The graph below shows monthly HWRC visit levels for Quarter 1 of Contract Year 6 (April to June 24 – purple line on graph), compared with the previous four Contract years.

There were over 1.27 million visits in this 3 month period. There has been a continued trend of reducing visitor numbers across the 20 HWRC sites. Numbers have fallen significantly since the start of the Contracts, due to the Access Policy measures preventing trade / commercial waste from illegally entering the system. Also, efforts continue to reduce the amount of cross-boundary waste, entering Greater Manchester sites from neighbouring Authority areas.



### 2023/24 HWRC User Statistics

The automatic number plate recognition system utilised at our HWRCs is used to monitor site usage and how these compare to GMCA's user policy. For 2023/24:

- Out of 4,632,787 visits by cars there were 1,032,801 individual registrations recorded. Each registration visits on average 4.5 times per year – well below the 52 visits indicated in the Access Policy;
- 1,431 cars exceeded the 52 annual visits with the top five exceedances being 271, 232, 220, 205, 193 visits annually. Suez does review the visit number of registrations exceeding 52 annual visits. In many cases visits are shown not to be trade waste related with people regularly visiting the Renew shops or dropping off small amounts of household waste regularly for a variety of reasons; and
- For vans: there were 86,328 permitted visits made by 55,256 permits (each permit holder has an allowance of 18 visits annually). This means that on average a permit holder is visiting 1.56 times per month which is slightly over the annual allowance but significantly lower than numbers recorded prior to introduction of the permit scheme.



### 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 Quarter 1 of Contract year 6 (April to June 2024), fortunately, there have been no events reportable under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013. Hopefully, this position will continue to remain the same.

#### 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	24-25* Qtr1
RIDDORS	5	3	3	4	4	0