

Slough Borough Council

Report To:	Cabinet
Date:	19 th January 2026
Subject:	Recommendation/s to Cabinet from CISC 11 th November 2025 – Waste Management & Recycling Services
Councillors	Chair of CISC: Cllr Nadeem Khawar
Chief Officer:	Sukdave Ghuman, Director of Law and Governance
Contact Officer:	Amy O'Brien, Scrutiny and Governance Officer
Ward(s):	All
Exempt:	No
Appendices:	None

1. Summary and Recommendations

- 1.1 This report sets out Cabinet's initial response to the recommendations arising from the [Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee's Meeting on 11/11/2025](#) on item 2 – Waste Management and Recycling Services.

Recommendation:

That the Cabinet approves the recommended responses (Table 1 Column iv) to each recommendation (Table 1, column i) with reference to the options set out in Section 2.4.

2. Report

Introduction

- 2.1 The key roles and functions of Scrutiny in Slough are set out in Article 6, Sections 2-6 of the constitution and include (6.2.ii):

“make reports and/or recommendations to the full Council and/or the Executive and/or any other Committee in connection with the discharge of any functions;”

- 2.2 Table 1 below sets out:

- i. The recommendations to Cabinet (or alternative body) agreed by CISC at its meeting on 11/11/2025
- ii. A link to the relevant source document or minutes for each recommendation.
- iii. Notes and links to any formal report to the Cabinet (either at this meeting or expected at a future meeting) that addresses the recommendations and their implementation or otherwise.

- iv. The Cabinet's recommended response;
 - v. The Relevant Cabinet Member and Director.
- 2.3 The Cabinet is asked to respond accordingly, following the options set out in Section 2.4.
- 2.4 There are five response options available to Cabinet, as set out in section 17.2 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules:
- a. NOTE BUT **NOT** AGREE the recommendation, on the grounds that [insert rationale].
 - b. NOTE AND AGREE the recommendation, or a specific part of the recommendation (noting whether action is already underway, and which named director will implement it and by what date.
 - c. NOTE but REQUEST FURTHER WORK BY OFFICERS in response to the recommendation (e.g. to evaluate options to implement and report back to cabinet for final decision by [date]).
 - d. NOTE but REFER the matter to Full Council or a committee for action, or an external organisation.
 - e. For recommendations relating to operational matters and therefore directed to one or more members of the CLT, the Cabinet is invited to NOTE and either ENDORSE the recommendation or CAUTION it.

Table 1. Recommendations requiring Cabinet response.

i. Scrutiny Recommendation	ii. Source of recommendation (link to CISC report/minutes)	iii. Explanatory notes provided by Cabinet Member	iv. CABINET RESPONSE (from options a-e above)	v. Name of Cabinet Member and Executive Director
That the Council approve a pilot scheme, in preparation for national policy, to introduce a deposit return scheme by 2027 for reverse vending machines and begin engagement with suppliers to explore partnership and funding opportunities and talking to the local supermarkets.	Minutes Template	The UK deposit return scheme is due to commence from 1 st October 2027. The scheme will be run by an appointed administrator and will largely provide for containers and bottles to be returned at supermarkets and other retail locations.	Note but not agree: - Any scheme implemented ahead of any statutory DRS scheme may have cost implications for the council that are unaffordable. SBC will work with the scheme administrator to assess feasibility of the council hosting/operating reverse vending machines if there is a lack of take-up from commercial operators.	Cllr Gurcharan Manku Pat Hayes
That the Council investigate whether a space can be approved and allocated for fireworks in each park and put up appropriate signs about whether parks can be used for fireworks before October 2026.	Minutes Template	Following the large number of unofficial firework displays in the borough which were not cleared away afterwards the street cleansing service had to suspend BAU to remove debris and litter. In addition these displays generated a substantial safety concern.	Note but request further work by officers: - SBC will explore the practicality of providing a dedicated space(s) for community firework displays to improve safety and contain any littering. The viability assessment will need to factor in necessary health and safety considerations and resident impacts.	Cllr Gurcharan Manku Pat Hayes
To recommend to Cabinet that they prioritise the production of a new Waste Strategy	Minutes Template	Slough has low a low recycling rate and high levels of flytipping. A strategy will enable a medium term set of actions to help improve recycling, reduce waste production and positively impact on carbon emissions.	Note but request further work by officers: - The production of a strategy will be explored, however any work will need to be managed within the budget resource available for 2026/27 which may impact the scope and speed of delivery.	Cllr Gurcharan Manku Pat Hayes

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That Cabinet consider the resources available for street cleansing in the budget setting process to increase the number of staff involved in street cleansing following the reduction from 48 to 24 staff, particularly in areas prone to littering problems.	Minutes Template	Staffing levels in the street cleansing service are lower than almost any other borough. Investment needs to be made to improve the street scene, an issue which is important to many residents and businesses.	Note and endorse: - Growth bids will be made at the next opportunity to increase the budget for both staffing and machinery.	Cllr Gurcharan Manku Pat Hayes
Serve litter control notices on those streets where there were businesses adding to the problems of littering and street cleanliness.	Minutes Template	Street Litter Control Notices were brought about by the Environmental Protection Act 1990.	Note but not agree: - The provisions of the EPA 1990 have since been removed and replaced by the ASB, Crime & Policing Act 2014. Local Authorities are no longer able to issue these notices.	Cllr Gurcharan Manku Pat Hayes
Review the recycling communications plan to make it clearer to residents which materials can go in the red bins e.g. stickers, information website etc.	Minutes Template	There is evidence residents still find it confusing to know which types of waste should be disposed of in which bin. Residents have expressed this to officers during door knocking exercises to raise awareness of the food waste collection rollout.	Note but request further work from officers: - Officers in conjunction with communications to investigate how SBC can provide more helpful digital and print materials to give residents clarity on how to recycle more effectively.	Cllr Gurcharan Manku Pat Hayes
Explore joint working opportunities with partners such as SEGRO about waste management, potentially including sponsoring for reverse vending machines.	Minutes Template	SEGRO own and manage the trading estate and have significant influence on businesses there.	Note but request further work by officers: - Officers to engage SEGRO in strategic conversations about waste management and recycling.	Cllr Gurcharan Manku Pat Hayes

Scrutiny Recommendation	ii. Source of recommendation (link to CISC report/minutes)	iii. Explanatory notes provided by Cabinet Member	iv. CABINET RESPONSE (from options a-e above)	v. Name of Cabinet Member and Executive Director
That the introduction of a Citizens Charter to promote waste and recycling be considered.	Minutes Template	Linked to the communications plan recommendation above.	Note but request further work by officers: - Officers to continue to use grant funding to cover the cost of two Sustainability Officers to develop a schools recycling programme and work with housing associations on recycling and waste minimisation.	Cllr Gurcharan Manku Pat Hayes