



East
Northamptonshire
Council

Policy and Resources Committee – 6th June 2016

Northamptonshire Waste Partnership

Purpose of report

This report seeks Members' approval for the Council to renew its membership of the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership.

1.0 Background

1.1 At the Policy and Resources Committee of 10th November 2014, the decision was taken to withdraw from the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership (NWP). For the reasons set out below, Members are requested to consider an invitation to re-join the partnership.

2.0 Reviews being undertaken

2.1 Earlier this year the Chief Executives of the County, District and Borough Councils commissioned a report into the future delivery of waste services in Northamptonshire, both collection and disposal. The report made several recommendations that will have implications for the way we as a Waste Collection Authority deliver our services in the future. Two main reviews will be commissioned as a result:

- Delivery of one or more Energy from Waste plants in the county
- Harmonisation of collection arrangements within the county

2.2 In addition, the County Council has initiated a review of green waste collection across the county, with a view to procuring single county-wide service and directing the collection authorities as to where to dispose of that waste.

2.3 The Chief Executives Group has now tasked the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership with progressing all of these reviews.

3.0 Important issues to consider

3.1 When Members took the decision to withdraw from the NWP it was anticipated that dialogue would continue between the waste collection and disposal authorities in the county at a strategic level. This has not materialised and these discussions have continued within the framework of the NWP with the effective exclusion of officers from this Council.

3.2 The view was also taken when we chose to leave NWP that it was not an effective forum for developing the solutions needed to issues around waste collection and disposal, and that the cost of membership did not represent value for money. As NWP will now be the forum where the critical issues referred to in section 2 above will be resolved, NWP now has a clear purpose and value.

4.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

4.1 There are no equality and diversity implications associated with this report.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

6.0 Risk Management

- 6.1 The risks associated with the future delivery of waste services in the county are reflected in the Council Risk Register as ;
RM ENV 003 - Inefficient or unsatisfactory waste collection service
RM ENV 007 - Reduction or withdrawal of recycling credits

7.0 Resource and Financial Implications

- 7.1 If Members agree to re-join the NWP, the annual contribution is £13,000, which will be adjusted in the year of re-joining to reflect the date of re-commencement of membership. There has been no provision made in the 2016/17 budget to meet this contribution. Therefore, it is proposed that the money is funded from reserves in 2016/17 and provision made in the budget from 2017/18 onwards.

8.0 Constitutional Implications

- 8.1 Any decision taken by Members on this matter would not require an amendment to the Council's Constitution.

9.0 Customer Service Implications

- 9.1 There will be no immediate impact on customers and customer service. However, the items to be discussed by NWP could have a significant impact on how waste is collected, recycled and disposed of, so it is important that this council plays a full part in those discussions.

10.0 Corporate Outcomes

- 10.1 If members decide to re-join the NWP it will help deliver the following corporate outcomes
- Good Quality of Life – effective waste collection and cleansing services contribute to a clean and safe environment
 - Good Value for Money – working collaboratively will present opportunities to realise economies of scale and effective procurement
 - Effective Partnership Working – re-joining the NWP will improve work between this council and the other councils in the county.

11.0 Recommendation

- 11.1 The Committee is recommended to resolve to recommend that Full Council should:
1. approve the Council re-joining the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership with immediate effect;
 2. make available funding of £13,000 from existing reserves for 2016/17; and
 3. note that provision will be made in the budget from 2017/18 onwards.

(Reason: To enable the Council to work collaboratively with other Councils in the county to provide efficient and effective waste collection and disposal services that meet the needs of its communities.)

Legal	Power: Environmental Protection Act 1990				
	Other considerations:				
Background Papers: None					
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Date: 19 th May 2016					
CFO		MO		CX	