



Policy and Resources Committee 9th January 2017

Waste and Cleansing Contract Procurement Update

Purpose of report

This report provides an update on the work of the Waste Project Board and seeks Committee approval of the proposed waste and recycling collection service specification.

1.0 Background

1.1 The Waste Project Board (WPB) was formed in early 2016 to commence and direct the procurement of the next Waste and Cleansing contract. This contract is the largest that the Council awards; it covers the waste and recycling collection services, street cleansing and ancillary services and is due to expire in 2018. The Board comprises Councillors Lewis, North, B Jenney, Boto and Glithero, supplemented by the Head of Environmental Services, the Waste Manager and the Chief Executive. The Board has met regularly through the year. Its first objective was to establish the specification of what the service would look like. The Board will then move into considering how the service will be provided together with how it will be procured.

2.0 Current arrangements

2.1 The most significant element of the waste and cleansing contract is the collection of household waste and recycling. The current specification is based on:
Residual waste – fortnightly collection - 180 litre wheeled bin
Dry recycling - fortnightly co-mingled collection - 240 litre wheeled bin
Food waste – weekly collection - 10 litre bin and caddy
Garden waste - fortnightly collection (subscription-based) - 240 litre wheeled bin

2.2 This arrangement was developed as part of the procurement of the current contract and involved input from a Member-led procurement team and public consultation. The Members on the current Board have taken this into consideration, together with a wish to maintain stability, consistency and simplicity of the service for the residents of East Northamptonshire. Members also acknowledge the high customer satisfaction levels the service enjoys and the fact that the Council undertook significant change in its collection arrangements when introducing the current contract.

2.3 The current collection arrangements also satisfy the requirement of The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 and the subsequent amendment of 2012 which requires waste collection authorities to take all reasonable measures to apply the waste hierarchy and to provide separate collections of paper, plastic, metal and glass where it is technically, environmentally and economically practicable.

3.0 Important issues to consider

3.1 The WPB is aware of the ongoing work that is taking place across Northamptonshire on the harmonisation of collection arrangements. This work has recognised the current ENC arrangements as good practice i.e. smaller bin for residual waste, separate food waste collection and a subscription-based garden waste collection service.

- 3.2 The WPB has also considered the alternative arrangements that are being discussed as part of the 'harmonisation project', which include smaller bins, less frequent collections and free garden waste collection services.
- 3.3 The WPB is keen to highlight in this update that this stage of the project is about establishing how the Council wishes the service to look. Future stages will include consideration and recommendations on how we deliver the service i.e. through a market procured contracted out service, a shared service with other Councils, through the setting up of an arms length vehicle, extending the current contract or bringing the service back in house. This will obviously have implications as to how we procure the service.
- 3.4 Following due consideration, the WPB has indicated that it does not wish to change the basic specification of the waste and cleansing service and that the arrangements should remain as set out in section 2.1. The WPB is of the view that to change the current specification significantly would be to the detriment of the service that householders receive through either less frequent collections or smaller bin capacities and therefore recommends that the current specification of the service is retained.
- 3.5 This report mainly concentrates on the arrangements for the collection of household waste and recycle. The WPB does not propose making significant changes to the other elements of the service.

4.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

- 4.1 This report and its accompanying recommendations propose not to make any significant changes to the specification of the waste and recycling collection and cleansing service. As such an equality impact assessment further to that undertaken at the time of the service implementation has not been carried out.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 At this stage of the procurement process there are no legal implications around the recommendations as set out.

6.0 Risk Management

- 6.1 The WPB is maintaining a project risk register.
- 6.2 The recommendations as set out will maintain the Council's position on compliance with the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2012 as any updates to the service will include a full compliance analysis to ensure that any collections methods move waste up the waste hierarchy.
- 6.3 The following risks are captured on the risk register which relate to the provision of refuse and recycling collection services.
- Failure to protect environmental quality in open spaces
 - Inefficient or unsatisfactory waste collection service
 - Excess contamination in the co-mingled recyclables

7.0 Resource and Financial Implications

- 7.1 There are no immediate financial or resource implications associated with this report or its recommendations. However, this is the first stage in a procurement process which is likely to have financial implications for the Council, which will be addressed in future updates to the Committee.
- 7.2 Provision has been made in the MTFs for the anticipated costs of the service under

the new contract, and the aim during the procurement process will, of course, be to obtain the best possible price.

8.0 Constitutional Implications

8.1 There are no immediate constitutional implications for the Council arising from this report or its recommendations

9.0 Customer Service Implications

9.1 There are no immediate customer service implications for the Council arising from this report or its recommendations

10.0 Corporate Outcomes

10.1 The recommended decision helps deliver the following corporate outcomes:

- Good Quality of Life – the procurement of an effective waste collection and cleansing service will contribute to a clean and vibrant environment
- Good Value for Money – the procurement of the next waste collection and cleansing solution will be founded on the principle of obtaining an effective service which provides good value for money
- Effective Management – this update demonstrates the effective working between officers and Councillors through the WPB

11.0 Recommendation

11.1 The Committee is recommended to

1. Accept the recommendation of the Waste Project Board that the procurement of the next waste collection and cleansing contract is based on the specification of the service as set out in paragraph 2.1

(Reason – the current specification of the waste collection and cleansing service provides a service that is effective and provides good customer satisfaction)

Legal	Power: Environmental Protection Act 1990				
	Other considerations:				
Background Papers:					
Person Originating Report: Mike Deacon, Head of Environmental Services ☎ 01832 742060 ✉ MDeacon@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk					
Date: 15th December 2016					
CFO		MO		CX	