



## Cabinet 20 July 2011

### West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Services Joint Committee: 17 June 2011 (Aug11/05)

**Cabinet Members:**

*Cllrs David Ray and Peter Stevens*

**Chairman of the Joint Committee:**

*Cllr Peter Stevens*

**1. Progress on Delivering the 2010/2011 Joint Waste Service Plan and Review of Performance**

***RECOMMENDED:- That***

***Subject to the approval of full Council, the Partnering Agreement, dated 9 April 2008, be varied so that the Business Plan forms an integral part of the Service Plan.***

**RESOLVED:-**

**That progress made against the projects identified in the Joint Service Plan 2010/2011 and performance in relation to the national performance indicators be noted.**

The Joint Committee considered Report C25 (previously circulated) which detailed progress made against the projects identified in the Joint Service Plan 2010/2011 and performance in relation to National Performance Indicators (NPI).

The Joint Service Plan was intended to aid the integration of service delivery and enable the Joint Committee to manage the delivery of services in accordance with the Partnering Agreement. The Service Plan was supported with a range of performance indicators in order to determine if progress was on target and to determine where further action was needed.

Table 1 provided a summary of the interim progress against the nine service plan actions adopted for 2010/2011.

Performance against the NPIs and agreed targets were detailed in Tables 2 and 3. Appendix B detailed the profiled waste recycling progress against the same period in 2009/2010 for both Councils.

During the discussion it was agreed that a paper would be presented to a future meeting concerning waste reduction and reuse and in particular the local authority's role in promoting reuse.

*(The following is a summary of the decisions taken by the Joint Committee. This is for information only and no decisions are required by the Cabinet at this stage.)*

## **2. Fires at Lackford and Haverhill Transfer Stations: Update**

**RESOLVED:-**

**That Report C24 be noted.**

The Joint Committee considered Report C24 (previously circulated) which gave an update surrounding the fires at Lackford and Haverhill Transfer Stations.

Forest Heath District Council (FHDC) and St Edmundsbury Borough Council (SEBC) tip dry recyclable (blue bin) material at the Lackford Transfer Station. The fire at the Lackford Transfer Station started on the evening of Monday 2 May 2011 (a Bank Holiday). On the morning following the fire temporary arrangements were quickly made to take blue bin waste and tip it at the Waste Recycling Group (WRG) facility at Red Lodge. This was the same location used for tipping some of the Councils residual (black bin) waste. Operationally this arrangement had a neutral impact to FHDC but impacted on SEBC during blue bin collection week in Haverhill and rural areas to the south of the Borough. This was due to travel distances to Red Lodge being farther than those to Lackford.

Crews based at SEBC's Haverhill Depot tip residual (black bin) material at the Haverhill Transfer Station operated by WRG, prior to onward bulking and transfer for disposal. From Monday 6 June 2011 Haverhill based crews have been collecting residual waste and taking it to WRG's Red Lodge Transfer Station. The increased distance had resulted in higher fuel use and longer working hours (overtime) which was being monitored and recorded.

## **3. Additional Brown and Blue Bin Capacity for Householders**

**RESOLVED:- That**

**(a) Additional brown bin capacity**

- (1) A revision to the current policy to allow residents to purchase an additional brown bin for a one off charge of £52, be approved, subject to available collection capacity; and**
- (2) officers be given delegated authority to adjust the one off charge to take account of the increase in the cost of providing the additional bin;**

**(b) Additional blue bin capacity**

- (1) The current restriction that only allowed households of six people or more to have a larger 360 litre blue bin be removed and that the provision of a 360 litre blue bin, other than to households of six people or more, be subject to a one off charge of £44; and**
- (2) officers be given delegated authority to adjust the one off charge to take account of the increase in the cost of providing the blue bin.**

**(c) Provision of sacks**

- (1) Forest Heath District Council adopt an identical Sack Policy to the one currently operating at St Edmundsbury Borough Council;**
- (2) Sacks be provided at a cost of £1 per 10 sacks when collected from Council premises and £2 per 10 sacks when purchased online; and**
- (3) officers be given delegated authority to adjust the charges to take account of the increase in the cost of the provision of sacks.**

The Joint Committee considered Report C26 (previously circulated) which sought approval for a revision to current policies regarding issuing of additional brown and blue bins and sacks.

The current alternate weekly brown bin collection service collected garden and green kitchen waste from residents, predominantly utilising 240 litre size bins with a very few 140 litre bins in use where residents circumstances met certain criteria. Householders had requested additional brown bin capacity to help them manage their garden waste at peak times during the year. To date these requests had been denied and residents had been informed that the service was a universal single bin with a default size of 240 litres. However, it was now considered appropriate to question whether this policy could be relaxed for those residents who wished additional capacity to help them manage their organic waste.

An additional 240 litre brown bin rather than a larger one would, therefore, be a more appropriate way to provide additional capacity to those residents that requested it.

Both Councils had a consistent policy where the default blue bin size for dry recyclable waste was 240 litres. A small number of 140 litre bins were provided if residents met certain criteria and similarly larger 360 litre blue bins could be provided to households of six people or more. In order to encourage any household to separate more of their waste for recycling it was now proposed that additional blue bin capacity was available for all households. Additional capacity could be either through the provision of larger 360 blue bins on request as a replacement for the 240 litre bin or by the provision of sacks.

#### **4. Cleansing Review Update**

**RESOLVED:- That**

- (1) the progress of the projects to redesign Cleansing Services be noted; and**
- (2) regular updates be received on progress, including a report at the next meeting scheduled for 14 October 2011.**

The Joint Committee considered Report C27 (previously circulated) which contained an update on the comprehensive redesign of the Cleansing Services across Forest Heath District Council (FHDC) and St Edmundsbury Borough Council (SEBC).

The Project Team had finished the routing of the Shared Rural Mechanical Channel Sweeper Service across both authorities. Work had commenced on routing the applied sweeping and litter picking rounds, which included precincts and shop front cleaning. Litter and dog bin collection data had been loaded onto the computer software package used to design and produce the routes and schedules. The first draft routes suggested that more work needed to be done with the crews to establish what the actual collection pattern was.

#### **5. 2011/2012 Vehicle Replacement Programme**

**RESOLVED:-**

**That the proposed Procurement Programme for the purchase of replacement vehicles in 2011/2012 financial year be noted.**

The Joint Committee considered Report C28 (previously circulated) which provided details of the proposed Procurement Programme for the purchase of replacement vehicles, which would aggregate the two Councils requirements to ensure best value for money was achieved. The Procurement Schedule was attached as Appendix A to the report.

For the period 2011/2012 the joint requirements were for the purchase of 13 refuse collection vehicles, three road sweepers, and one gully tanker with a total budget of £2.055 million. In line with recommendations from the Cabinet Office Efficiency Reform Group (ERG) it was proposed to aggregate the requirements of both authorities through the mechanism of joint working in order to secure better unit prices through increased tender volume. It was also proposed to use an established pan-Government framework, which both authorities could access through the Central Buying Consortium (CBC).

As part of the tendering exercise, evaluation of the environmental impact of the vehicles to be purchased was included in the scoring matrix in accordance with the requirements of the relevant European Union directive on the promotion of clean and energy efficient road transport vehicles. The synopsis of this directive was included in Appendix B to the report.