



St Edmundsbury  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# D81

## Cabinet 25 July 2012

### Report of the West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Services Joint Committee: 15 June 2012 (Aug12/08)

*(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)*

**Cabinet Members:**  
Cllrs David Ray and Peter Stevens

**Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee:**  
Cllr Peter Stevens

#### 1. Service Level Agreements (Report No JWC12/045)

##### RESOLVED:

**That the extension of the Service Level Agreements relating to vehicle maintenance, A14/A11 litter clearance and rural channel sweeping for a further period of one year, subject to the fees identified at paragraphs 12, 13 and 14 of Report No JWC12/045, be approved.**

This report recommended extending the Service Level Agreements relating to vehicle maintenance, A14/A11 litter clearance and rural channel sweeping for a further period of one year. Paragraphs 12 to 14 of the report set out the proposed charges for 2012/2013. Clarification was requested on the process used for the determination of the level of these charges and it was explained that fees had been calculated on previous performance, savings achieved and operational costs (i.e. vehicle maintenance, waste disposal, fuel costs and salary costs etc.)

In relation to A14/A11 litter clearance service a query was raised about the flexibility of resources having to be diverted unexpectedly elsewhere. It was explained that working practices on the highway are governed by strict safety and operational rules which have to be complied with. Charging mechanisms are also in place to cover for unexpected works. Discussions are also taking place with the Highways Agency to try to co-ordinate works, as far as is practically possible to do so.

## **2. Vehicle Advertising**

### **RESOLVED:-**

#### **That the update be noted.**

The Joint Committee was informed that new refuse and street cleansing vehicles have been ordered. As part of the new design and colour scheme, advertising on the side panels of the vehicles is also being explored. For the smaller vehicles this will involve a permanent rigid skin on the side of the vehicle. For the larger vehicles, a curtain system will be used which will be attached to the side of the vehicle. A design brief for the branding for the vehicles has been issued to local agencies. The brief has been left fairly wide and it is hoped that the designs will reflect both Councils' core objectives and achievements within the community.

Responses to the design brief were due by the end of June 2012, with the chosen brand being developed for mid-July 2012. Once the preliminary designs have been received, Members will be given the opportunity to view/comment on these.

Members queried whether commercial advertising will also be incorporated as part of this new branding. Officers explained that the main purpose of the branding is to deliver the messages which both Councils' wish to promote as part of the waste service. Officers explained that commercial sponsorship had been considered, but it raised various complex issues with regard to the monitoring and administration.

Members also requested an update on the other aspects of the vehicle livery in respect of the new vehicles. Officers explained that the West Suffolk logo will appear on the cab doors, on each side of the vehicle. Both Councils' names and addresses will continue to be visible on the vehicles. The emphasis on the new livery will be around the 'West Suffolk Working Together' branding, as had previously been reported to the Joint Committee. Members wished to ensure that members of the public are still able to recognise that the service is continuing to be provided by both Councils working in partnership.

## **3. Suffolk Waste Partnership (SWP) – Textiles Project**

### **RESOLVED:-**

#### **That the update be noted.**

Members were provided with an update on the implementation of the Textiles Project within Suffolk. From 18 June 2012, an initial letter was delivered, by Royal Mail, to all households to explain this new scheme. A pack was then issued to all households from 2 July 2012, which included a guide and the new recycling bag.

Refuse crews, operational, support and Communications staff had been appropriately briefed. The Strategic Director (Services) also stated at the meeting that an article should be placed within the internal 'West Suffolk Wavelength', along with information being provided to all Councillors at both authorities, to ensure that they were aware of the scheme, before it went 'live' from 2 July 2012.

Members wished to ensure that the two USAF Bases (Lakenheath and Mildenhall), along with RAF Honington had also been included within this scheme. Officers stated that the use of postcodes, with the Royal Mail, should have ensured that these bases were included. However, he will also liaise with the appropriate Housing Officers/Base Commanders to ensure that the packs were delivered.

Members raised concerns regarding the potential impact of this scheme on the donations of clothing to charities. The Strategic Director (Services) stated that work will be undertaken to ensure that residents were informed that the textiles scheme was for residual waste and not necessarily for the type of clothing that will be donated to charities.

Officers had also provided details of the various channels that will be used to publicise the scheme.

#### **4. Progress on Delivering the 2011/2012 Joint Waste Service Plan and Review of Performance (Report No JWC12/046)**

**RESOLVED: That**

- (1) the progress made against the projects identified in the Joint Service Plan 2011/2012, be noted; and**
- (2) the performance in relation to the Service Performance Indicators, be noted.**

The report updated Members on progress against key tasks in the 2011/2012 Joint Service Plan, as set out in Table 1, along with the related Service Indicators, as set out in Table 2.

With regard to the information contained within Table 2, Members queried as to why some of the data was unavailable for 2011/2012 for St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Officers explained that this had been caused by the removal of the national indicators by Central Government. Since that time, work has been undertaken to devise local indicators across both Councils and measurement is now be able to commence from 2012/2013.

Members referred to the data listed within Table 2 and wished to ensure that, in future, the context of this information was reported in such a way as to be able to highlight the achievements within this data. The Head of Environmental Services (FHDC) concurred with the comments made by Members and would look to revise the reporting mechanism in the future.

The Legal Executive also took the opportunity to inform the Committee of the recent success for the Council in relation to fly tipping prosecutions.

**5. Update on the Procurement of Waste Transfer and Recycling Services  
(Report No JWC12/047X) (Para 3)**

**RESOLVED: That**

- (1) the contents of the report be noted;**
- (2) the respective Portfolio Holders at Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council to remain fully engaged with the Suffolk Waste Partnership (SWP) colleagues throughout the decision making process; and**
- (3) a further report be submitted to the Joint Committee to update Members on the progress of this procurement.**

This report was presented which provided an update on the proposals for the joint procurement of waste transfer and recycling infrastructure services in Suffolk.

The report also outlined a number of options which are currently being considered by the Suffolk Waste Partnership (SWP) in relation to this procurement.