



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

E55

Cabinet 9 July 2013

Report of the West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Services Joint Committee: 14 June 2013

(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.)

Cabinet Member:

Chairman of the Joint Committee:

Cllr Peter Stevens

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1. Service Level Agreements 2013/2014 (Report E23)

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 each, be approved subject to the fees identified at paragraphs (i) to (iii) of Minute 6.

Consideration was given to Report E23 (previously circulated) which contained a review of the Service Level Agreements and the proposed fees for 2013/2014 in respect of:

- (a) Vehicle Maintenance;
- (b) A14/A11 Litter Clearance; and
- (c) Rural Channel Sweeping.

The report recommended extending these Service Level Agreements for a further year.

The Service Level Agreement relating to Vehicle Maintenance has now been in operation for almost 5 years following an initial 12 month contract that preceded the partnering agreement. During that period there has been an overall improvement in vehicle compliance and annual testing pass rates. An approved interim management structure has also supported a more integrated fleet management strategy.

The Service Level Agreement relating to A14/A11 Litter Clearance has generally continued to work well but has had to operate in circumstances that are not completely within the control of the Councils, such as weather conditions and increased public expectation against a restricted budget.

The more recent Service Level Agreement relating to Rural Channel Sweeping has been operating well and has come about as a result of the Joint Cleansing Review. A new vehicle for this work is currently on order and is due to be delivered later in the year.

In respect of Proposed Fees for 2013/2014 it is proposed that the fixed annual charges be as follows:

- (i) Vehicle Maintenance to be increased by 0.7% from £40,902 to £41,186 with the hourly rate increasing by 0.25% from £48.46 to £48.58 (overtime rate increasing from £51.93 to £52.03). These hourly rates were fully burdened and inclusive of full workshop overheads;
- (ii) A14/A11 litter clearance – the charge to Forest Heath to be increased from the existing level of £2,130.13 per month to £2,300 per month; and
- (iii) Rural Channel Sweeping – the charge to Forest Heath to be increased from the existing level of £1,606.18 per month to £1,750 per month.

These fees to be met from existing operational budgets.

In discussing the report Members acknowledged that, ultimately, once a joint service is fully in being the Service Level Agreements will no longer be required.

2. Update on the Procurement of Waste Transfer and Recycling Facilities (Exempt Report E27)

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the contents of Exempt Report E27 be noted;**
- (2) subject to final negotiations, the lease for the Rougham Hill site be signed to enable planning and work on the site to proceed;**
- (3) the respective Portfolio Holders at Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council be authorised to engage with Suffolk Waste Partnership colleagues throughout the decision making process; and**
- (4) a further report be submitted to the Joint Committee to update Members on the progress further to Exempt Report E27.**

Exempt Report E27 (previously circulated) was considered. This provided an update on progress with the procurement of authorisation of preliminary work to proceed on the provision of a transfer station at Rougham Hill, Bury St Edmunds.

The report:

- (a) updated Members on the Energy from Waste (EfW) project, its potential impact on future Waste Collection Authority (WCA) trade waste operations and how this is currently impacting on finalising an Inter-Authority Agreement (IAA) between the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) and WCAs in Suffolk;
- (b) outlined the progress on procuring a new Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) contract to be operational from November 2014;
- (c) provided an update on how discussions around the provision of transfer stations are developing and the potential impact for West Suffolk; and
- (d) outlined the current status of discussions to agree new mechanisms for sharing costs and benefits once new contract arrangements are in place.

3. Review of Waste Management Performance 2013 (Report E24)

Report E24 (previously circulated) was received and noted. This provided an update on progress made in Waste Management and Street Cleansing.

(a) **Suffolk Waste Partnership**

Officers are currently involved with the delivery of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Suffolk and an associated Action Plan which identified specific projects up to the end of the contract in 2014.

(b) **Re-use of Bulky Collection Waste**

West Suffolk will be participating in a trial with Suffolk County Council to support the re-use opportunities for a range of furniture items collected as part of the bulky waste collection scheme.

(c) **Waste Team Restructuring and Business Process Reengineering**

Officers are progressing two separate but connected projects to redesign work as part of the shared services programme to restructure the joint West Suffolk team. In addition to a staff structure review process, a number of FHDC and SEBC policies require alignment.

(d) **Spring Clean 2013**

This year's Spring Clean fortnight had taken place across West Suffolk during March and April 2013. The campaign had encouraged people to participate in local clean up events across the county to reduce litter and improve the local environment. It forms part of Suffolk County Council's Creating the Greenest County initiative which aims to respond to climate change and enhance the natural and historic environment. In West Suffolk, 425 volunteers had collected over 400 black bags of rubbish.

4. Fleet Replacement Programme 2013/2014 (Report E25)

Report E25 (previously circulated) was received and noted, which provided an update on progress made with the Combined Vehicle Fleet Replacement Programme for 2013/2014.

The Joint Committee was requested to note in particular:

- (a) progress made on the replacement programme as reported in paper JWC13/052 on 22 March 2013; and
- (b) the proposed purchase of vehicles was in accordance with replacement schedules.

Officers had reported that on Appendix 1 of the report that the Total Budget Estimate should read £1,194,688 and not £160,844.

5. Future Legislative and Policy Drivers Affecting Waste Management (Report E26)

Report E26 (previously circulated) was received and noted. This provided an update on future national policy and legislative drivers that would influence and shape waste and street scene activities, both locally and nationally and either directly or indirectly.

The key policy and legislative drivers listed in the report were:

- (1) Local Government Association Waste Review;
- (2) Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Department of Energy and Climate Change: Review of the Impact of European Union (EU) Legislation;
- (3) the Government's Waste Prevention Programme for England;
- (4) Local Audit and Accountability Bill;
- (5) Review of the Management of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment;

- (6) Review of EU Targets;
- (7) Judicial Review of Commingled Waste Collections;
- (8) the ban on cash payments for scrap at recycling yards;
- (9) Courtauld Commitment – Phase 3: Reduction of Food and Packaging Waste in the Grocery Sector;
- (10) Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment (Amendment) Bill;
- (11) Littering from Vehicles Bill; and
- (12) White Paper on Anti-Social Behaviour Community Protection Orders.

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