

# MINUTES of the Meeting of the CHILTERN & WYCOMBE JOINT WASTE COLLECTION COMMITTEE held on 20 MARCH 2015 at WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL

#### PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs J Teesdale (Wycombe District Council) - Chairman

P E C Martin (Chiltern District Council) - Vice Chairman

Councillors: M R Smith (Chiltern District Council)

Officers: J Bacchus (WDC), K Eastman (CDC & WDC Senior Waste

Officer), S Gordon (CDC), C Marchant (CDC & SBDC), S Markham (CDC), B Smith (CDC/SBDC), I Westgate (WDC)

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Councillor C Harriss (WDC), C Hughes (WDC).

#### 1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2015 were agreed as a correct record

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

# 3. PROGRAMME REPORT & RISK REGISTER

Members considered a report providing an update on the joint waste collection programme and during which the key points were made:

# **Health & Safety**

There had been no reportable incidents since the last meeting. An issue relating to the fire alarms at Clay Lane had been reported to the Estates Team and had been addressed.

# **Clay Lane**

Further work had been undertaken in relation to the potential reinstatement of the fuel tanks at Clay Lane. The tanks had been pressure tested, but further checks would be needed due to the length of time they had been out of commission.

#### **BCC Interface**

It was noted that long-term bio waste procurement was still being pursued. Work had commenced on calculating the 2014/15 IAA payments based on the first 6 months' performance.

#### Green bin renewals

Green bin renewals continued to go well and 13,576 residents had already signed up to the service.

#### Communications

A contamination project had been planned for Mid-May / June to address high levels of garden waste contamination in High Wycombe. Stickers would be placed on garden waste bin lids to cover old food waste signage and contamination levels would be monitored.

# **Staffing**

Recent staff movements and proposed changes to post designations were noted.

# **Risk Register**

Three new risks had been added: TEEP Challenge, Staff Retention and Contract Novation.

### **RESOLVED -**

That the report be noted.

# 4. SUMMARY OF TEEP ASSESSMENT OF THE JOINT WASTE SERVICE

The Committee received a report which presented a summary of the recent TEEP assessment of the Joint Waste Service, which checked the compliance of the service with Regulation 12 and Regulation 13 of the Waste Regulations of England & Wales 2011.

Members noted that the Service had been found to be compliant with both Regulations, and the current collection arrangements were found to be serving the councils well. The final assessment would be signed off by the Head of Service / Directors and Head of Legal.

It was also noted that the regulations require re-assessment each time there is a major change, and it was therefore proposed that the service be re-assessed in 2017/18 prior to contract renewal or extension in 2020.

Members thanked Sally Gordon, Waste Policy & Performance Manager, for completing the assessment, which had been very comprehensive and was a significant piece of work.

#### **RESOLVED -**

- (i) That the results of the recent TEEP assessment of the Joint Waste Service be noted;
- (ii) That the service be re-assessed in 2017/18 prior to contract renewal or extension in 2020.

## 5. WHEELED BIN OPTIONS FOR CARD COLLECTIONS

The Committee received a report which outlined a proposal to introduce an option for residents to have a wheeled bin for paper subject to a fee which would cover the cost of changing the service.

Members supported the proposal, but highlighted that those residents taking up the option should be made aware that the bins would remain the property of the Council and there would be no rebates in the case of, for example, contractor change. Officers agreed that appropriate wording would be included on the website.

#### **RESOLVED -**

That the option for residents to have a wheeled bin for paper and card, subject to a fee which covers the cost of changing the service, be endorsed.

#### 6. CUSTOMER SERVICES

This item was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

# 7. REMOVAL OF BRING SITES

The Committee received a report outlining the methodology and time frame for the phased reduction of 114 recycling sites. Members heard that the phased removal of the sites would begin in June 2015 with approximately 20 sites being removed every month, commencing with the least used and most problematic sites. It was envisaged that the number of sites would initially be reduced to 45, with the remaining sites to be reviewed to assess whether they were all still required.

Members highlighted the importance of ensuring that parish councils, portfolio holders and individual ward members were kept informed as to which sites would be removed and when.

# **RESOLVED** –

That the report be noted.

#### 8. 2014/15 JOINT WASTE SERVICE BUDGET UPDATE

An update was provided on the current 2014/15 budget position for the Joint Waste Service up to Quarter 3. Members noted that no third party income is predicted, and at the time of writing the report the level of the Q2 recycling credit payment had not been available. It was agreed that the line on CDC Support Services recharge (general) should be removed from the budget with an explanatory note added.

#### **RESOLVED -**

- (i) That the joint waste service budget update be noted;
- (ii) That the CDC Support Services recharge (General) line be removed from the joint client expenditure and income budget, with a note to be inserted to the effect that this exists but is not shown.

#### 9. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

**RESOLVED:** That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

#### 10. JOINT WASTE CONTRACT – INDEXATION PROVISIONS

The Committee was invited to consider options relating to the application of negative inflation indices for 2015 to the Joint Waste Contract. Members considered that in light of other current requests from Serco, a decision on the issue of application of negative inflation indices should be deferred for the time being, until all other issues had been considered.

# **RESOLVED** -

That a decision on the application of negative inflation indices for 2015 be deferred.

# 11. SERCO CORPORATE RESTRUCTURE

The Committee received a draft report to the Councils' respective Cabinets outlining a set of principles in relation to the proposed novation of the Joint Waste contract as part of Serco's corporate restructuring proposals. The report had been considered by Chiltern District Council's Services Overview Committee, and was scheduled to be considered by both Councils' Cabinets on 24 March.

# **RESOLVED** –

That the report be noted.

# 12. JOINT WASTE CONTRACT - DRAFT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A copy of the Joint Waste Contract Draft Improvement Plan was tabled for Members' information. The positive nature of the proposal was welcomed; however, Members noted officers' comments that further consideration of the detail of the plan was required.

# **RESOLVED** -

That the draft improvement plan be noted.

The meeting ended at 12.30pm.