



Cabinet decision notice

The following decision(s) were taken by Cabinet at its meeting held on **22 September 2022**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 29 September 2022.

Agenda item no. 8

Change to the Household Recycling Centre (HRC) service model from nine to ten sites

(a) Decisions

The Cabinet received a report which outlined a proposal to change the Household Recycling Centre (HRC) service model and HRC contract from a nine site model to a ten site model, with the opening of Bledlow HRC 5 days a week. As part of the proposal, it was recommended that the site be opened for Buckinghamshire Council residents and other aspects of the service be provided in line with the draft Waste Access and Acceptance Policy (WAAP), which was attached at Appendix 1 to the Cabinet report.

The Cabinet report also proposed that non-Buckinghamshire residents be charged for waste acceptance and access for all waste types in accordance with powers set out in Paragraph 51(3) of the EPA 1990, rather than prohibit use of the HRC amenities. To date the neighbouring Local Authority Oxfordshire County Council had not been amenable to enter into Service Level Agreements, therefore Buckinghamshire Council would be able to introduce charges for non-Buckinghamshire residents, for waste acceptance and access for all waste types, who might use Bledlow HRC site.

Buckinghamshire County Council introduced changes to the Household Recycling Centre service on 1st April 2019. This was a difficult decision made in the short term, due to the financial pressures the Council faced and the requirement to secure a balanced budget. The service changes included three HRCs opening 5 days (closing Wednesday and Thursday), Bledlow HRC being closed and the introduction of non-household waste charging at all HRCs. Due to future growth demands near the Princes Risborough area, there was a growing demand for HRC provision. The long-term aspiration would be to build a new HRC closer to the Princes Risborough area. However, a replacement site would have considerable lead in times, typically five years or more. This was due to the complexities such as land acquisition, development control (i.e. the planning process), procurement and construction phase. The recommendations, set out in the Cabinet report, would meet the Council's future needs in the short to medium term, whilst an alternative site was found.

Cabinet took into account the detailed representations which had been submitted by residents and external organisations including the supplementary information which was published on 21 September 2022 on the future tonnage and visitor forecast assumptions



and a summary of the key themes where representation had been received. During discussion the Leader asked all Cabinet Members individually to confirm that they had read the detailed representations that were included with the supplementary agenda papers. All Cabinet Members confirmed that they had done this.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approves the following recommendations to take effect from the date the decision is taken unless otherwise stated –

- (1) That the revised Waste Access and Acceptance Policy (WAAP), Appendix 1 to the Cabinet report, be agreed.**
- (2) That the Bledlow Household Recycling Centre be re-opened in November 2022, or earlier if it is operationally possible. The HRC to operate on 5 days a week, with closing days being Wednesdays and Thursdays (Option F).**
- (3) That non-Buckinghamshire users be charged for waste acceptance and access for all waste types when using the Bledlow HRC.**
- (4) That the Service Director of Property and Assets, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Accessible Housing and Resources be authorised to finalise, agree, exchange and complete the lease documentation.**
- (5) That the Service Director of Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment, be delegated authority to maintain service level agreement(s) and/or enter agreements with any other neighbouring authorities. This is to share costs for their residents to use Buckinghamshire HRCs on a fair basis.**
- (6) That the Head of Strategic Waste Management and Enforcement be delegated authority to undertake all necessary appropriate steps in relation to the Household Recycling Centre contract by executing a Deed of Variation.**
- (7) That it be NOTED that the financial implication associated with the recommendations are contained within the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

- (i) The Council's Household Recycling Centre (HRC) service is provided under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990) Section 51.
- (ii) The recommendation proposes to introduce charges to non-Buckinghamshire residents, in accordance with powers set out in Paragraph 51(3) of the EPA 1990, rather than prohibit use of the HRC amenities. To date the neighbouring Local Authority Oxfordshire County Council has not been amenable to enter into Service Level Agreements, therefore Buckinghamshire Council is able to introduce charges for non-Buckinghamshire residents, for waste acceptance and access for all waste types, who may use Bledlow HRC site.
- (iii) Recommendation 5 proposes some flexibility to enable Service Level Agreements to be put in place with any neighbouring authority over time including Oxfordshire County Council. Any such changes will then be reflected at a future point in time.
- (iv) To agree the revised draft Waste Access and Acceptance Policy (WAAP) Appendix 1, which aligns to the recommendation. The revisions include changes from a nine site HRC model to a ten site HRC model, introduce non-Buckinghamshire resident charges for waste acceptance and access for all waste types using Bledlow HRC,

Bledlow HRC to offer a 5 day service (closing days Wednesday and Thursday). All other aspects of WAAP would be applicable at Bledlow HRC in line with other HRCs in Buckinghamshire.

- (v) The Council has an existing HRC service contract in place with FCC Waste Services (UK) Ltd. An increase in the number of HRCs can be included in the contract by undertaking a Deed of Variation and will also require a lease to be put in place for the Bledlow HRC.

(c) Alternative options considered

The other options considered are detailed in Section 3 of the Cabinet report.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

Agenda item no. 9

Highways Service - Term Consultancy Contract Award

(a) Decisions

The procurement project team, with support from other disciplines from across the Council and externally, had made positive progress with the delivery of the new Highways operating model and the associated procurement activity and were on programme to deliver these key contracts for the Council. The first of these contracts was the appointment of a new Term Maintenance Contractor which was agreed by Cabinet on 12th July 2022.

The Cabinet report, and the confidential Appendix 1 , reported on the outcome of the procurement exercise for the second of these contracts, the Term Consultancy Contract (TCC) and recommended the award of contract to the preferred bidder with the most economically advantageous tender in accordance with the agreed assessment model for quality and price.

The Term Consultancy Contract was another key component of the new Highway service operating model for the Highways Service and would deliver a high-quality service and value for money.

The range of services that the Term Consultant would provide comprise of specialist support on structures and street lighting, project management and supervision and to compliment the client team on various activities including procuring and supervision of works through the frameworks, as well as general top up of capacity, applying innovation and ensuring best value was being delivered.

The Term Consultant had also been set up so that other service areas of the Council could make use of it for various disciplines and expertise and be able to provide advice and support on developing feasibility and detailed design for large scale capital funded infrastructure projects, flooding and environmental investigation and analysis and Traffic Modelling to deliver the most cost-effective solutions. A full list of activities was shown in Appendix 3.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That progress made to date on the procurement of the new Highways Services Contracts be NOTED.**
- (2) That the award of the Highways Term Consultancy contract to the preferred bidder be AGREED, as detailed within Confidential Appendix 1.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

- (i) The contracts required for the future delivery of this key service are ranked as 'Platinum Plus', requiring a council Key Decision by Cabinet.
- (ii) There are three elements/contracts, with the procurement of each undertaken in a phased approach to manage workload.
- (iii) The recommendation for the award of the first of these contracts, the Term Maintenance Contract (TMC) was agreed by Cabinet on 12th July 2022, and this report details the outcome of the procurement exercise for the second, the Term Consultancy Contract (TCC), making recommendations for a decision to award the TCC in accordance with the previously agreed procurement process.

(c) Alternative options considered

None.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

For further information please contact: Ian Hunt email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

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