

Members' Library Service Request Form

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Originator	Tom Reid, Waste Services Manager
Originator's Ref (if any)	
Document Title	Food Waste Collection Service

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REPORT TO: Members' Library Service

MEETING DATE:

BY: Depute Chief Executive (Partnership and Services for Communities)

SUBJECT: Food Waste Collection Service

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Council with the information required to support partnership working for the delivery of a weekly Kerbside Food Waste Collection Service. This change is needed in order to respond to the additional statutory obligations placed on the Council by the Waste (Scotland) Regulation 2012 and ensure delivery of the decision taken at full Council in July 2014 to alter the Waste Collection Strategy.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the contents of this report and enable the existing contract for Kerbside Recycling to be varied to cover Food Waste Collection.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In July 2014 the Council took the decision to alter the current waste collection strategy to implement the following service provision by April 2015:

- Introduce a weekly food waste collection service to all households
- Introduce an alternate weekly domestic waste collection to all households
- Increase the existing alternate weekly garden waste collection service to cover all households
- Retain the existing alternate weekly kerbside box recycling service

- Introduce a dedicated trade waste collection service including a DMR collection.
- 3.2 Detailed modelling was carried out to provide a revenue cost for carrying out food waste collection in house. This was then benchmarked against the cost of contracting Biffa UK Ltd to carry out the collection in addition to the current kerbside recycling collections.
- 3.3 The annual costs for each are provided below:
- ELC - £566,600 (excluding vehicle purchase costs)
 - Biffa Uk Ltd - £549,212
- 3.4 ELC costs include the revenue burden however there is no provision within the Capital Plan to accommodate the capital expenditure on additional vehicles.
- 3.5 The following benefits accrue by varying the existing kerbside recycling contract to cover Food Waste Recycling collections and awarding the work to Biffa UK Ltd until the contract expires in October 2017:
- Restrictions on capital spending mean that ELC is unable to purchase the additional vehicles required. If vehicles were leased the additional revenue costs are such that the provision of the service in house would be more expensive.
 - By awarding to Biffa UK Ltd the Council is demonstrating an annual financial saving of £17,388.
 - By awarding to Biffa UK Ltd ELC has a two year window to assess the capture rate and full extent of the service requirement under 'trial conditions'. This information will be beneficial in preparing tender documentation for exposure of the combined food waste and kerbside recycling contract in October 2017.
 - Within the timescale available (collection of food waste to be in place by April 2015), and the uncertainty around participation rates it is considered appropriate to deliver the service through a variation to the existing kerbside recycling contract.
- 3.6 As a consequence of the contract expiring in October 2017 Biffa UK Ltd have stipulated that ELC must purchase the Food Waste Vehicles if they are unsuccessful in winning the new contract, post October 17. The purchase price will be at market value, anticipated to be circa £320,000. This risk to ELC will be minimised by including the vehicles concerned as part of the new contract from October 2017.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Failure to award this contract variation will remove the Council's ability to meet the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and leaves us open to legal challenge and penalty.

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 This report is not applicable to the well being of equalities groups and an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Financial - The annual sum of £549,212 is contained within existing budgets due to the strategic changes planned for all collections.
- 6.2 Personnel - None

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None

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