

Wiltshire Council

**Cabinet Capital Assets Committee
10 January 2011**

Subject: Transformation of Waste and Recycling Collection Services

Cabinet Member: Toby Sturgis
Waste, Property and Environment

Key Decision: Yes

Executive Summary

The report sets out a proposal for implementation of the transformation of waste and recycling collection services during 2011-12.

Proposal

That the Committee agrees to include the proposed capital investment of implementing the new services for waste and recycling collection during 2011-12 in the council's future capital programme, to be approved through the budget setting process.

Reason for Proposal

To enable the decisions made by Cabinet at its meeting on 19th October 2010 in respect of waste and recycling collection services to be implemented, following a positive response to public consultation.

Tracy Carter
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Wiltshire Council

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Purpose of Report

1. To recommend that the Committee includes the following in the proposed capital programme for the implementation of new recycling services during 2011-12.

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	4 year total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital costs	7.761	0.528	0.138	0.138	8.566

Background

2. At a meeting on 19th October 2010 it was resolved that Cabinet
 - (a) notes the results of the public consultation "Waste Collection and Recycling – Proposing a first class service for all households in Wiltshire" carried out during June, July and August 2010, and agrees to the implementation of that proposal;
 - (b) notes that implementation of the proposal requires management of a number of significant risks, in particular the procurement and development of waste management sites, the availability of depot space for additional vehicles and temporary storage facilities for additional bins and the procurement of vehicles, bins and bags which will determine the timescale for implementation;
 - (c) gives delegated authority to the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood and Planning in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Waste, Property and Environment to implement the policy;

Agrees to:

- (a) the proposed area by area phasing of new services, to minimise disruption and to control the very substantial logistical issues, such as bin delivery and staff availability to assist residents during the change;

- (b) a phased communication and education programme prior to, during and subsequent to the roll out of service changes, commencing at least six months prior to roll-out;
 - (c) the key decisions on service delivery and policy, as set out at paragraphs 25 to 44 and in Appendix 7 of the report presented;
 - (d) policies for non-collection of overfull bins or side waste being implemented after a “settling down” period of six months for the new services;
 - (e) enforcement action by the Council being limited to repeated failure to use receptacles provided for recycling or creation of side waste and warnings being issued before any formal enforcement action is taken;
 - (f) residents being invited to apply for the garden waste collection, but that this would be provided on request only except in west Wiltshire, where the service already existed;
 - (g) charging for provision of additional garden waste bins and their collection (ie more than one bin per household) at £30 per additional bin per year (2011-12) with prices subject to annual review and
 - (h) budget provision being made for the capital and revenue costs of the service changes, as set out in paragraphs 71-73 and Appendix 2 of the report presented, commencing in 2011-12, with timing subject to the emerging dates for implementation.
3. Following the announcement of the comprehensive spending review on 20th October 2010 it was proposed that implementation of the new services be deferred until 2012-13. Further work has been carried out on the Council’s business plan since the publication of the detailed settlement on 13th December which has now resulted in a revised proposal for implementation of the new services during 2011-12.

Main Considerations for the Council

4. Agreeing the recommendation would enable the Council to implement the decisions made by Cabinet on 19th October, following the positive response to the public consultation on harmonising waste and recycling collection services.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

5. Recycling will increase as a consequence of implementing the proposal assisting a reduction in resources required to make new products. Within Wiltshire the increase in Council collection mileage of about 20% is likely to be offset by a reduction in car journeys to recycling sites by residents. Further details of the environmental impact of the proposal are set out in paragraphs 56 to 62 of the report to Cabinet on 19th October 2010.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

6. The equalities impact of the proposal is likely to be positive, giving more residents the opportunity to recycle. Further details of the equalities impact of the proposal are set out in paragraphs 63 to 67 of the report to Cabinet on 19th October 2010.

Risk Assessment

7. The transformation of waste and recycling collection services has been identified on the Council's corporate risk register. Further details of the risk assessments associated with the proposal are set out in paragraphs 68 to 70 and in some of the appendices to the report to Cabinet on 19th October 2010.

Financial Implications

8. The increase in revenue compared to the 2010-11 budget and the revenue cost of borrowing to fund the capital investment are set out in the table below.

	2011-12 £m	2012-13 £m	2013-14 £m	2014-15 £m	4 year total £m
Increase from 2010-11 revenue budget	1.534	4.119	3.833	3.734	13.220
Revenue costs of capital	0.334	0.512	0.528	0.537	1.910
Total revenue increase	1.868	4.631	4.361	4.271	15.130

Legal Implications

9. Legal issues associated with the proposal are set out in paragraphs 74 to 78 of the report to Cabinet on 19th October 2010.

Options Considered

10. A number of options have been considered:
- (i) no additional expenditure incurred in 2011-12;
 - (ii) all additional expenditure incurred in 2011-12;
 - (iii) other options including the proposal requiring some additional expenditure in 2011-12 and some in 2012-13.

Conclusions

11. The proposal for changes in waste and recycling collection services would enable the Council to meet its key objectives of providing a harmonised service to residents in all areas and encouraging a significant improvement in recycling.
12. The proposal has been widely supported by Wiltshire residents, with over 70% of respondents to the consultation voting in favour. However, any change to the waste collection service causes disruption and some adverse reaction from the public. This will be addressed through the detailed design of the service and through an extensive and planned communications programme.
13. A risk-based approach to the project implementation work is being taken in recognition of the very considerable risks associated with implementation of the service changes. The main risks are the financing of service changes, acquisition and development of required sites, acquisition and delivery of vehicles and receptacles and acceptance of the new collection services by all residents. These will have a particular influence on the timescale of implementation.
14. The initial cost assessments of the proposal provide a basis for the Council's medium term financial strategy, business plan and proposed increases to the waste capital and revenue budgets. However, these will need to be kept under review as the proposals are developed in detail.

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The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None

Appendices:

None