

MATTERS DEALT WITH BY CABINET

64/06 - WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN – WASTE COLLECTION OPTIONS, FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE NUMBER 02/06DCS130:

Further to Cabinet Minute 129/05, the

Head of Environment submitted a written report on those household waste collection options (Options 1 and 4) identified by Cabinet at its meeting held on 1st February 2006 for further investigation. A cost analysis of the preferred waste collection options had shown that expanding the baseline scheme was the least expensive option, but one which would not deliver the required recycling and composting performance. Options 1 and 4, which included alternative weekly collection of recyclables and residual waste would deliver the required performance but, due to the cost of the service change, were more expensive to implement and operate. Owing to the weekly back-door sack residual waste collection service currently operated by the Council the costs of moving to the preferred option, Option 4 (the collection of recyclates from the kerbside once a fortnight using a wheeled bin for co-mingled dry recyclates and a box for glass with residual waste and green garden waste being collected on alternate weeks using wheeled bins), were much greater than that for Council's already operating a wheeled bin residual waste service. A substantial proportion of the revenue cost of operating both options 1 and 4 were due to the predicted gate fee for the delivery and handling of collected recyclates. Equally, there were very substantial capital costs in moving from the current recycling service to either of the previous identified options. The North Yorkshire County Council had, however, indicated its willingness to provide funding for the move to the North Yorkshire Partnerships preferred option 4, through a service level agreement. The work undertaken through the Waste Collection Options Appraisal and Waste Management Partnership Development indicated a clear way forward in order to boost recycling and avoid landfill allowance exceedance penalties, that of implementation of option 4 over a three-year period with the assistance of funding provided by the County Council. This would entail expansion of current green garden waste schemes and dry recycling over the next two years and if agreed by Cabinet would necessitate the submission of a further report to its next meeting on details of a budget costed implementation plan for years 1 and 2 and those further negotiations to be held with the County Council with regard to the service level agreement.

In considering the preferred option, Cabinet were conscious of the need for its implementation to reflect the difficulties associated with wheeled bin storage etc for the more densely populated urban areas of the district and for aesthetic considerations to be borne in mind when expanding the scheme to the rural areas of the district. This option would, therefore, not be suitable for all properties in which case alternatives would be examined and assisted collections would also continue to be made. In pursuing Option 4, Cabinet also considered it highly desirable to avoid the use of a fourth container for the recycling of glass in favour of incorporation of this facility within one of the other collection bins.

RECOMMENDED (UNANIMOUSLY):

That (1) the progress the Council have made on investing in and improving on household waste recycling and composting performance to reach its target whilst continuing to perform well on constraining waste generation growth be noted;

(2) the outcome of the phase 2 Waste Collection Options Appraisal be noted, whereby the preferred Options 1 and 4 selected by Cabinet for further investigation would require additional investment compared with simply expanding the existing recycling scheme, but would deliver significantly improved performance in line with the York and North Yorkshire Joint Waste Strategy and the Local Agreement targets;

(3) the obligation of the Council to work in partnership with NYCC, as set out in the Strategy and Statement of Agreement Principles be noted, and that the Partnership's preferred method of waste collection aligns with Option 4;

(4) Cabinet adopt Option 4 as the preferred waste collection option on the basis that its implementation, supported by the NYCC through a service level agreement, will be the most effective way of helping to deliver the North Yorkshire Joint Waste Strategy/LAA targets;

(5) the preferred option be adopted subject to the required financial and infrastructure support being delivered by NYCC through a service level agreement, be implemented over a 3 year period and be subject to the Council being able to find the necessary supporting funding;

(6) the implementation plan contain policies which set out how exceptions and variations to participation in waste collection schemes will operate, recognising some properties will not be suitable for full implementation;

(7) the expansion of the current kerbside green garden waste and recycling schemes continue over the next 2 years, as planned; and

(8) Cabinet receive a report in November giving details of a budget costed implementation plan for years 1 and 2 and details of the negotiation and service level agreement process to be undertaken with NYCC.

(5.32 pm – 5.33 pm)

Reason for making decision:

To meet Harrogate Borough Council's corporate objectives and its obligations under the Joint Waste Management Strategy and the draft Local Area Agreement.

Alternative option considered and rejected:

Not to expand recycling services to boost performance. Rejected as the Council has a

corporate objective to improve recycling performance, and obligations to work in partnership with NYCC to develop services to avoid landfill exceedance penalties and meet Government targets.

(5.33 pm – 5.48 pm)

(D)