

Communities, Highways and Environment Scrutiny Committee

2 March 2022

Strategic Options for Processing of Separate Food Waste and Other Waste Disposal Services and Update on Joint Strategic Approach

Focus for Scrutiny

Report by Director of Law and Assurance

Summary

Under the new Environment Act 2021 waste collection authorities (WCAs) will be required to collect food waste separately. Under earlier legislation, it falls to the County Council as Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) to arrange for the disposal of the "controlled waste" collected in its area by the waste collection authorities.

Cabinet will be asked to decide upon a preferred option to meet this requirement based on a detailed business case, and to consider associated contractual arrangements and other opportunities to improve the efficient use of assets.

With the district and borough councils responsible for collecting this material and the County Council responsible for processing it, coordination of action is essential to ensure compliance and value for council tax-payers. The Committee will be briefed on work to develop a joint strategy to set out an agreed approach and timeframe.

Focus for scrutiny

The Committee is asked to consider:

1. Whether the proposal shows sufficiently how it will meet the objectives set out under paragraph 1.5 of appendix 1 (the draft decision report) and that members are satisfied that those objectives are sound as part of the Council's waste strategy.
2. Whether the report (appendix 1) provides a compelling case for the specific aims summarised in para 2.2 and that these are reasonable steps for the Council to take as part of its strategy for the site and the facility.
3. Whether there are any aspects of the proposal and how it will be implemented or in relation to the reasons for rejecting alternative options which require further examination or consideration.

The Chairman will summarise the output of the debate for consideration by the Committee.

1. Background and context

- 1.1 Cabinet plans to take a decision on the processing of separate food waste when it meets on 15 March.
- 1.2 The background and context to this item for scrutiny are set out in the attached appendices. As it is a report dealing with internal or procedural matters only the Equality, Human Rights, Social Value, Sustainability, and Crime and Disorder Reduction Assessments are not required.

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Strategic Options for Processing of Separate Food Waste and Other Waste Disposal Services

Background Papers

None