

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 13 April 2015

Subject: Waste Management Partnership Board

Portfolio Holder: Environment – Councillor W Breare-Hall

Recommending:

- (1) That the Waste Management Partnership Board be re-established for the monitoring of the Waste Management Contract with Biffa Municipal Limited; and**
 - (2) That the Council's membership of the Board be approved as follows:**
 - (a) The Environment Portfolio Holder (as Chairman);**
 - (b) The Finance Portfolio Holder;**
 - (c) The Director of Neighbourhoods;**
 - (d) The Assistant Director of Neighbourhoods (Technical); and**
 - (e) The Council's representative under the Contract.**
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Report:

1. The Council let a 10 year Waste Management Contract to Biffa Municipal Limited on 4 November 2014. The contract covers all household waste and recycling collections and street cleansing services.
2. The previous contract benefited from a Waste Management Partnership Board (WMPB) which was responsible for strategic oversight of the contract. The arrangement worked very well and enabled the Council to achieve a number of innovations and service enhancements, such as:
 - introduction of weekly Food and Garden recycling service;
 - recycling of street cleansing arisings;
 - publicity campaigns; and
 - organising events in schools and the such like.
3. In light of the success of the previous Board, it is recommended that a similar Partnership Board be established for the contract with Biffa Municipal Limited. By formally approving a Waste Management Partnership Board for the management of this contract the Council will be showing its commitment to the partnering arrangements.

4. The Board is not an executive decision making body. Its purpose is to provide strategic oversight and review performance against agreed objectives. The key functions of the Board would be:

- (a) to monitor service performance;
- (b) to encourage innovation;
- (c) to manage the contract proactively;
- (d) to develop, strengthen and encourage partnership working;
- (e) to seek rapid and fair resolution of differences;
- (f) to review the Partnership and its performance; and
- (g) to report to the Cabinet as necessary.

5. The Board will not involve itself with day to day operational issues. The previous Partnership Board consisted of two elected Members: the Environment Portfolio Holder (as Chairman) and the Finance and Technology Portfolio Holder, who were supported by officers. It is recommended that a similar membership should be considered along with three Officers as members; these being the responsible Service Director, Assistant Director and the Officer overseeing the contract.

6. In order to have parity, Biffa Municipal Limited will be invited to nominate the same number of members as the Council, with at least one Biffa Board Director to be present at each meeting.

7. We recommend as set out at the commencement of this report.